Sandwell
CHRONICLE

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Charity chiefs say redundancies cannot be ruled out

CARE HOME JOBS FACING THE AXE

By Richard Guttridge

JOBS are under threat at a care home in West Bromwich after the charity that runs it said it must axe services to save money.

The Kaleidoscope Plus Group said it could not rule out redundancies at the Nicholl Grange Care Home in Nicholls Street and at its two supported housing schemes as it plans to restructure services.

Office staff at its Hawthorns House base in Halfords Lane could also be affected.

The mental health charity, formerly known as Sandwell Mind, said it had been hit hard by cuts to government funding and as a result had been forced to look at ways of reducing costs. Bosses are currently in discussions with staff about the future of the charity.

They said they hoped staff who are affected could be moved elsewhere within the operation but that redundancies would have to be considered. Kaleidoscope Plus employs more than 100 people in the Black Country.

Chief executive Monica Shafaq said: "I can confirm The Kaleidoscope Plus Group is currently consulting staff regarding the restructuring of our services including those at our Nicholl Grange Care Home.

Examine

"We are channelling all our efforts into how we can potentially redeploy any affected staff to our other services although at this stage we cannot rule out potential redundancies. Over the last two years the third sector has been hit hard by funding cuts and unfortunately we have not been immune to these and therefore we have had to examine the current structure of the organisation.

"With all this in mind, we have to closely scrutinise the structure of the charity and how we need to operate in the future to ensure we are able to thrive and prosper.

The Nicholl Grange Care Home looks after 14 residents and charges up to £600 a week for care. The charity also offers sheltered accommodation in South Road, Smethwick, and Parkside Place, Hill Top, West Bromwich.

The current crisis at Kaleidoscope is a far cry from two years ago when the charity was awarded £50,000 from the Government to run a scheme encouraging people suffering with mental health difficulties to begin volunteering.

Ms Shafaq added: "We are always keen to hear from anyone who would like to support us in regards to fundraising or donations so please contact us on 0121 565 5605."

RESCUE DRAMA AS M-WAY WORKER TAKEN ILL

Ambulance crews help rescue a highways engineer who suffered a muscle spasm while working 30ft off the ground in Ray Hall Lane, Great Barr

AN engineer had to be rescued from a precarious position after he was taken ill while working 30ft off the ground on a major motorway renovation project.

The worker became stuck and was unable to move when he suffered painful back spasms while working on the M6 project.

The rescue bid took more than two hours to complete before he was able to be taken to hospital for a check up. Firefighters and paramedics were involved in the dramatic rescue of the man from a platform underneath the elevated section of the M6 and M5 at Great Barr. West Midlands Ambulance Service revealed images showcasing the difficulties of Tuesday's rescue bid at the construction site off Ray Hall Lane.

He was moved from one platform onto another and then placed onto a 'cherry picker' machine which then lowered him to the ground. Major roadworks have been under way for weeks, taking place on the M6 junction eight which links with the M5.

Scaffolding has been erected underneath the southbound section of the motorway as part of ongoing works at the site.

Emergency services were called out at around 11.50 am to help the man in the precarious position. The worker, a man aged in his 40s who has not been named, had bent down to pick up a nail, officials said. But as he bent down he suffered a muscle spasm in his back that was 'excruciatingly painful'.

As he was stuck on the platform high over the ground specialist rescue teams had to be brought in to help. Technical rescue teams from West Midlands Fire Service and the Hazardous Area Response Team at West Midlands Ambulance service were called.

Ambulance service spokesman Murray MacGregor said: "As if being unable to move wasn't bad enough, the man was on a platform almost 10 metres [33ft] off the ground.

"The initial crew used a stair case to get up to the man and started to provide pain relief."

"The man was then taken to Sandwell Hospital for further treatment.

"This was an excellent example of close working between the two specialist teams that allowed a patient to be rescued from a precarious position," he said.

HISTORY

Children go back Tudor days of old

A SERIES of events will be held at The Oak House Museum to encourage youngsters to learn more about history. It will be holding a Tudor Tots event on May 26 between midday and 4pm.

There will be crafts and quizzes suitable for all ages. On May 27 from noon until 4pm there will be a musical crafts workshop when visitors can go and make some noise and music with musical craft activities. On May 28, there will be recycled music workshops, which will include a day of making music from everyday objects.

SCHOOLS

Teacher's leg-up for city 10k race

A SMETHWICK teacher got a helping hand from pupils when he took part in Sunday's Great Birmingham 10k run. Mo Cusworth-Yafai, head of Year 7 at Shireland Collegiate Academy, joined thousands on the annual trek.

And the father-of-two got his students involved – by setting them the target of raising sponsorship by jogging or walking at least 2km every day. The goal was to raise enough cash to pay for a 'Glideaway' bed at Birmingham Children's Hospital,.

POLICE

Man found stabbed at fast food branch

A MAN was taken to hospital with serious injuries after being found with stab wounds at a McDonalds restaurant in Oldbury.

Police have launched an investigation to find out what happened to the man, who is believed to have driven himself to the fast food restaurant in Wolverhampton Road having suffered the injuries elsewhere.

Officers went to the restaurant just after 5.30pm on Tuesday and found him with the multiple stab wounds. He was then taken to hospital and the restaurant was closed. Anyone with information should contact police on 101 or call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

INSIDE

ON COURSE TO BEAT HAZARDS

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Over-55s snap up latest apartments

The retirement village

MORE than half of the apartments at a new £16 million retirement village built on the site of the former Cradley High School have already been snapped up.

Lime Gardens, which has 120 homes for the over-55s, welcomed its first residents just three weeks ago.

Among the facilities on offer are games and hobby rooms, a gym, and a coffee shop staffed by the residents.

There are also woodland and garden areas and a greenhouse where residents can grows herbs and vegetables.

Midland Heart said the development, which has created 60 jobs, had proven popular with residents and was already more than half full.

Ruth Cooke, chief executive at Midland Heart said: "This is a truly magnificent scheme, providing outstanding quality care and support for older customers. "We have a great staff team, great facilities and I'm confident our customers will be very happy here in a safe, secure environment."

John Millar, acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing at Dudley Council, said: "This is the third extra care scheme that we've developed in partnership with Midland Heart and represents the future of housing for older people."

Matt Colloby, from developers William DavisLimited said: "The Lime Gardens development is a classic example of collaborative working, the whole project team focussed on the ultimate goal of delivering this quality scheme, on time and within budget, everyone involved should be very proud of their achievements."

It's the third development of its kind in Dudley by Midland Heart following similar schemes on the Russells Hall estate and in Coseley.

More staff sought to take on UTC roles

MORE staff are being recruited for the £10 million Health Futures UTC in West Bromwich as work moves closer to completion.

The complex in High Street which will offer courses for 600 students is due to open in September.

A new principal, Robert Fell, has been appointed to run the college. Now bosses are recruiting more senior staff including a subject lead for science along with science, business and ICT teachers.

Project leaders said the work was progressing well ready for the UTC, which will be a centre of excellence for those looking for careers in healthcare, to be completed by September.

As part of around 5,400 sq m of new, purpose-built teaching space, the building will feature specialist science laboratories and studios.

There will also be simulation suites including a mock-hospital ward, computing studios, classrooms, a lecture theatre, a gym, dining room and cafe, and kitchen and hygiene facilities.

The site of the new college, formerly housed the nine-storey Sandwell College block which was demolished in 2013 to make way for new development.

The UTC is sponsored by the University of Wolverhampton, the West Midlands Ambulance Service, the Midcounties Co-operative Pharmacy, among 23 employer and educational partners including NHS Foundation Trusts in the Black Country and Birmingham.

The Health Futures UTC aims to address shortage issues that are experienced by employers for technician and graduate entrants to careers in health and health sciences.

Aimed at 14-19 year-olds it will have a strong focus on science and healthcare but cover a range of traditional subjects at GSCE and A-Level as well as practical and technical qualifications.

Students will be able to study for a variety of healthcare careers such as nursing, paramedic services, radiography, pathology, physiotherapy and pharmacy.

Mr Fell said: "We are partnered with a huge range of employers who will lend their expertise, facilities and time to make sure our students are best placed to be their future employees."

Sue waves goodbye after 26 years

Sue Bayliss with staff and pupils from Warley Infant and Nursery school

A TEACHING assistant was given the perfect send-off as she waved goodbye to children at a school where she had spent more than a quarter of a century.

Sue Bayliss decided the time was right to retire from Warley Infant and Nursery School in Bleakhouse Road, Oldbury, after 26 years. A special assembly was held at the school to mark the occasion.

Sue, who lives in Cradley Heath, has seen many children come and go over the years since starting as a nursery nurse at the end of the 1980s. "I've worked in most areas of the school, from the little ones in nursery right up to the children in Year 2," she said.

"I worked throughout the school, taught group work and was most recently a learning support practitioner." The grandmother said it was difficult to leave behind the school where she had spent such a large part of her life.

Even before joining the school, Sue worked with children at a day nursery in Oldbury. "I have loved every minute. I have always loved working with children and the staff there are excellent."

Having worked at the school for so many years, Sue has often bumped into former pupils who have come back to the school as parents.

She said: "It has been a long time, a very happy time and very fulfilling."

Sale of NEC completed to private equity firm

THE sale of the National Exhibition Centre Group to private equity firm LDC has been completed.

Birmingham City Council had entered a binding agreement on the deal in January. It valued the business at around £307 million.

LDC, the private equity arm of Lloyds Banking Group, will now work alongside the NEC's management team to deliver initiatives across all business channels, both in the UK and overseas.

Martin Draper, LDC's chief executive, said: "The NEC Group is an outstanding business with excellent growth prospects. We are looking forward to supporting the management team in its next phase of development and unlocking further opportunities across the business."

Paul Thandi, chief executive of the NEC Group, added: "We are at the start of a dynamic and different period for the NEC Group, with our management and staff motivated to realise our ambitions and accelerate our growth strategy under new ownership alongside LDC.

"Being part of the private sector now enables us to capitalise on our market-leading positions in venue management, ticketing and catering with a greater emphasis on speed and capital investment where required or prompted by acquisition. These opportunities can enhance the future of the business, ensuring the group remains a cornerstone of the region's economic prospects."

As well as the NEC, which hosts Crufts, the group also runs the Barclaycard Arena (formerly the National Indoor Arena), the Genting Arena (once the LG Arena) and the International Convention Centre.

The city council is keeping the freehold on all the NEC sites.

John Lewis jobs are up for grabs

FIVE hundred jobs are up for grabs at the new glitzy £35million John Lewis department store which is helping to change the face of Birmingham city centre.

One of the largest John Lewis shops outside of London, the floor area will cover 250,000 sq ft – the equivalent of three and a half football pitches.

The shop will be the business's first full-line department store to open in four years and the anchor tenant of the new Grand Central retail development, which sits above the redeveloped New Street Station in the centre of the city.

Recruitment for positions at the store, ranging from sales assistants to stock and catering roles, has now begun.

The store's head of branch Lisa Williams said: "It's really exciting to be starting this stage of our recruitment process. I can't wait to find the hundreds of residents from the city and surrounding areas who will be instrumental in John Lewis Birmingham's development.

"We are looking for hardworking, enthusiastic people." To apply for a job at John Lewis visit www.jlpjobs.com

Thief jailed as woman was forced out of car

A THIEF has been jailed after forcing an 84-year-old woman from her daughter's car before stealing the family's Ford.

Leon Wright was captured and eventually admitted his crime after he was named as the prime suspect following the theft in July last year.

Wright, aged 32, preyed on his elderly victim as the mother and daughter pulled up outside the Post Office at Heathway Shopping Centre, Birmingham on July 21 last year.

The 61-year-old daughter ran inside at lunchtime to collect the pension for her elderly, disabled mother, who waited inside the '14' plate Ford Focus.

Just as she got inside the shop Wright ran up to the unlocked car and jumped into the driver's seat and made the elderly woman get out of the vehicle. Seeing what was happening, the daughter ran to try and intervene but had to jump out of the way as Wright sped off from the scene.

Wright, of Pear Tree Road, Shard End, was arrested in Birmingham city centre on suspicion of robbery on October 9. He was sentenced to 30 months in prison at Birmingham Crown Court on April 24.

Dc Bevis Johnson said: "Wright's actions left the elderly woman and her daughter extremely distressed – but thankfully unharmed. The mother was very upset, shaking and went extremely weak, to such an extent that members of the public had to go and help the pair at the roadside as they waited for emergency services."

Speeding lies man gets six months

A MAN has been jailed for six months and lost his driving licence after evading speeding tickets three times in two years.

Sumon Miah first struck in June 2012 when he denied being the driver of his grey BMW that was clocked going 38mph in a 30mph zone in New John Street West in West Bromwich.

A month later the prosecution forms were returned to police claiming that a Mr Ahmed, of Parliament Street, had been the driver.

New forms were sent to Mr Ahmed's address but the prosecution drew a blank when no further trace of the supposed driver was found. It was a similar story in September 2013, when Miah again was caught on the Black Country New Road in Wednesbury doing 52mph in a 40mph zone.

A year later, Miah was clocked for a third time driving over the speed limit on the same road.

None of the three prosecutions could be progressed when incorrect or insufficient information was received about the supposed 'real' drivers. Miah, aged 31, of Lodge Road, West Bromwich, admitted three counts of perverting the course of justice and speeding offences at Birmingham Crown Court.

Neighbour's shock as grenade found

Alan Greasley, aged 53, and Mark Billingham, 21

ALAN Greasley unearthed far more than he bargained for while working on a neighbour's garden in the Black Country.

The 53-year-old was busy digging up the soil when all of a sudden his shovel struck an object – which turned out to be a live hand grenade from the Second World War. But rather than panic and run a mile, the 53-year-old called police and then calmly picked up the grenade and showed it to a neighbour, not realising it was live.

However police were on the scene in Rowley Regis just minutes later, followed by a bomb disposal unit who cordoned off the house.

Mr Greasley, who had been helping a neighbour in Newhall Road sort out his garden following problems with a fence that was leaning into the property next door, said he was shocked by the discovery but never imagined the grenade would be live. He said he struck the object with his shovel as he dug about 2ft down into the soil.

Removing the layers of soil, he lifted out what turned out to be a No. 36 military grenade with its pin still intact, which was a standard issue weapon for British soldiers serving in the First and Second World Wars. The grenade is more commonly known as the Mills Bomb and the device Mr Greasley found still had the pin attached, although it was heavily corroded. He added: "The pin itself was corroded. It could have gone off, but I just thought 'it is only a grenade' so I left it on the ground and called the police."

In fact Mr Greasley, who was working with Mark Billingham, 21, showed Mark's mother Julie the grenade after he called the police. She said: "He came round to our house with the grenade in his hand. I could not believe it."

Army spokesman Nick Pritchard said the bomb disposal team was on site for 20 minutes.

Child abuse similar to Rotherham in region

CHILDREN in Sandwell are being sexually exploited, with gangs similar to those in Rotherham operating in the Black Country, says a police report.

The heavily-redacted findings reveal there are 'significant similarities' between child sex abuse here and the scandal in Yorkshire.

In Sandwell, Tipton, Smethwick and Rowley Regis are highlighted as 'hotspot' areas.

The findings are revealed in a West Midlands Police report entitled Child Sexual Exploitation, which was produced in October last year but has only now been made public.

It is marked as 'restricted' and large sections of information have been redacted – blacked out. An entire section under 'Locations of Note' has been redacted in the Sandwell report.

The scale of the problem across the Black Country is not clear because police and councils aren't doing enough to dig out information.

The report reveals that organised gangs, typically of Asian origin, are targeting victims at children's homes and schools. They are also using hotels and parks for sick 'house parties' to abuse youngsters.

Information

It found that victims are usually, but not always, white females aged 13-16 and a total of l 210 children or young people were sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation in the West Midlands in the first six months of 2014

But council bosses don't know how many children are being abused and some of the information needed to identify abuse is 'non-existent'.

All the Black Country councils have come under fire for not sharing enough information about potential victims. The 125-page report was released by West Midlands Police after a Freedom of Information request. But lots of details remain redacted.It reveals that between January and June last year, 210 children were identified by councils as having been 'sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation'. Police said it was 'difficult' to say how many were being abused, or at risk of being abused.

Most shockingly of all, the report compares the situation to that seen in Rotherham, where at least 1,400 youngsters were sexually exploited by gangs between 1997 and 2013.

Getting ready for the Stourbridge Folk Festival which starts in two weeks is Sunjay Brayne, at Katie Fitzgerald's pub in Wollaston

Sunjay ready for folk festival

FOLK artists from around the world will descend on a Black Country town for a five night folk festival.

The Stourbridge Folk Festival was cancelled last year, but will now return at new venue Katie Fitzgerald's pub. Among the headline acts is the town's own singer-songwriter Sunjay Brayne.

Sunjay, who runs the Stourbridge Folk Club, has established himself as a respected singer and blues man and recently finished a national tour with Steeleye Span. Organiser Eddy Morton, said: "This is the second festival but it is the second in three years. The first one we did was at the Red House Glass Cone in Wordsley and we had Nizlopi and Nick Harper.

"It is great to be bringing it back this year."

The festival, which runs from May 20 to 24, kicks off with world folk band Ranagri and Mr Morton.

On May 21 award-winning Lucy Ward takes to the stage supported by Stourbridge band Kim Lowings and The Greenwood.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman at shops sexually assaulted

A YOUNG woman with learning difficulties was sexually assaulted in West Bromwich town centre. The 19-year-old victim was approached by a man who convinced her to walk to the multi-storey car park off Queens Square.

The CCTV image

He took her to the fifth level where he began to hug and kiss her against her wishes on March 2.

The man is described as Asian, in his late teens, of a slim build with a beard and a moustache. Det Con Tom Keady said: "From CCTV inquiries in the area, we've identified a man we'd like to talk to about what happened, which is being treated as a sexual assault." Witnesses are asked to call 101 or Crimestoppers,

Concerns over plans for flat

NEIGHBOURS have raise concerns over plans to divide a flat into two new homes – claiming it would result in overcrowding.

James Arthur told a meeting of Dudley Council's development control committee the proposal to redevelop the flat in New Street, Dudley had created fears among neighbouring residents that it would affect the character of the conservation area and would have an impact on the amenities of existing residents of the flats, as well as setting a precedent.

A letter informing residents of the plans was sent to 60 homes and a letter was sent in response objecting to the proposal, which was signed by 40 residents.

Three more in football probe

THREE more men have been identified following an appeal into disorder at a football match between Birmingham City and Wolves.

To date seven men have been arrested and bailed in connection with the investigation and four others have been identified and will be spoken to at a later date.

Officers are continuing to appeal for help to track down those involved in the violent scenes after the match that happened in April.

One night with you, to raise club funds

A SHOW featuring the music of the king of rock will be part of the action off the pitch at a series of fundraising nights in aid of a football club. The first event in support of Darlaston Town (1874) FC will be Elvis Presley tribute act Yam Yam Elvis on May 22.

Rod Stewart act Garry Pease will follow on June 21. Both events will be held at the club's new home at Bentley Leisure Pavilion, Bentley Road North, in Bentley, Walsall. Both events start at 8pm and tickets cost £5 each.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

"IT'S hot and upbeat, like the jauntiest level of Hell." Australian comedian Deborah Francis-White on Radio 4, explaining her reluctance to return to her native Oz.

RESEARCHERS in Germany are investigating a link between gum disease and dementia. No surprises there, then. Oral hygiene, or the lack of it, has already been linked to diabetes, stroke and heart disease. The surprise is that, whatever the mouthwash companies may tell you, there is still no remedy for advanced gum disease. History will probably judge how many billions of dollars chucked at research into diabetes, stroke, heart disease and dementia would have been much better spent finding a cure for bleeding gums.

A NEW survey reveals that SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon has the highest approval rating of any UK politician. The lesson of history is that the most dangerous politicians are the popular ones. The healthiest reaction to anyone wearing a rosette is not a warm glow but a healthy, chilly dose of suspicion.

IF there's one thing more misleading than opinion polls, it's election posters. A friend tells me his town is bedecked in Labour red with hardly a Tory banner in sight. The strange part is that the town consistently returns a Conservative MP.

AND now the computer takes over from telly. All six episodes of the new Peter Kay comedy series Car Share were available on iPlayer before being screened on BBC1. It is clever, lovely, life-affirming stuff, as you would expect from a national treasure like Kay, and the casting of unknown Sian Gibson as the shop worker sharing Kay's car, and morphing from plain lass to rock chick as she fantasises about being a pop star, is perfect. I loved the misheard confusion over who had been assassinated. Was it JFK or Geoff Capes?

NEVER let the facts get in the way of a good headline such as: "Could wolf-whistling be a crime?" The truth is that Poppy Smart's distress at a building site in Worcester had nothing to do with mere wolf-whistling. It was about the 23-year-old being repeatedly confronted and embarrassed in the street by builders who thought they were God's gift to women. The police have had a few quiet words with them, which is precisely what the police should do in a situation like this. And it's exactly what these leering navvies would demand if it were their wives, girlfriends or sisters suffering the same intimidation. The defence "It's just banter, innit?" doesn't apply when it's your own loved ones.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

We will rise from the ashes, pledge

THE boss of the Oldbury plastics factory that was devastated by a huge fire said he was determined to ensure the business would rise from the ashes – as demolition teams began their work.

Firefighters tackled the blaze at Teknor Apex in Tat Bank Road for more than 16 hours after 29 workers were forced to flee from the ferocious flames. Businesses were evacuated and roads closed surrounding the site on Wednesday afternoon.

Parents collecting their children from nearby primary schools were told to leave the area quickly as the plumes of smoke filled the air. The fire is believed to have started in a warehouse storage room but fire chiefs said investigations into the cause of the fire were ongoing. Roger Davies, operations manager at Teknor Apex, said he was determined the blaze would not signal the end of the business and has already begun planning for the future in an attempt to bring the business back from its knees.

He said: "There are a small team of people working to implement a continuity plan on a human resources side and customer side," he said. "It's a lot of work for a small amount of people."

Watch commander James White said: "Unfortunately it has been completely destroyed.

"We will be scaling down our operation and liaising with demolition teams."

The aftermath of the blaze at Teknor Apex in Tat Bank

Residents told to stay indoors after firm blaze

WORDS: Craig Hughes and Richard Guttridge
PICTURES: Steve Leath

BUSINESSES were evacuated, residents warned to stay indoors and roads were closed as a huge fire swept through a plastics factory.

Flames engulfed Teknor Apex in Oldbury with plumes of smoke seen from 12 miles away.

Dozens of firefighters were at the scene from 1.20pm after the initial calls came in to emergency services.

In total 29 staff at the company, based in Tat Bank Road, were evacuated from the site, none of whom were hurt. Three businesses were evacuated as was a nearby school. |Residents were urged to stay indoors and close windows.

Police and ambulance were also called to the scene, as was the Environment Agency, which was called in to assess the area.

Police officers wore dust masks to protect themselves from the acrid smoke billowing from the building.

Destroyed

Residents and workers spoke of the chaos as the blaze took hold. Brian Cole, aged 46, who works at BJ Commercials, off Popes Lane, was among those caught up the drama as emergency services arrived.

"It was all within minutes," he said. "The flames destroyed the building."

A worker at IDI Composites, based in nearby Popes Lane, who did not want to be named, said: "It was because of the amount of smoke, they were concerned about it possibly spreading. It was very thick, acrid smoke. I heard cracking and banging, it sounded like butane gas bottles."

Crews were initially called at around 1.20pm to the scene as residents took to social media with pictures of smoke rising over homes and businesses. With the acrid smoke quickly streets police were forced to close off Tat Bank Road and warn motorists to take care.

After eight crews totalling around 50 firefighters initially attended, the full scale of the fire began to emerge. Soon more teams of firefighters were sent to the scene alongside specialist units from West Midlands Ambulance Service used to working in hazardous areas. Within two hours 13 fire engines were on site with two smaller brigade response vehicles and a unit brought in to pump water in from a nearby canal.

Two hydraulic aerial platforms were brought in as the fire was brought under control to fire water over the factory building. Firefighters on high were able to see the devastation caused as the roof collapsed.

Blackened corrugated roof panels had fallen inside the walls of the factory building which suffered significant damage.

West Midlands Ambulance Service said members of the Hazardous Area Response Team attended to the scale of the blaze.

Spokesman Steve Parry. said: "Thankfully, no-one was reported injured as a result of the fire. However, as the fire took hold the local community were advised to stay indoors."

A police officer attending the scene wearing a protective mask as a precaution due to possible fumes

Black plumes of smoke billow out from Teknor Apex

A fire officer seen on board the hydraulic platform

Ex-officer gets jail for his role in drugs ring

A FORMER West Midlands Police officer has been jailed for his role in a drugs ring. Mark Turner was one of three men who were given jail sentences at Birmingham Crown Court.

More than four kilogrammes of cocaine worth £712,000 was recovered from the men, which they had hidden in a house, in a car boot and in their clothing.

Police also seized more than £120,000 in cash from cars and houses belonging to the men, believed to have been as the result of their criminality.

Turner, aged 30, of Pytman Drive, Sutton Coldfield was jailed for eight years. Richard Sattar, 32, of Olton, Birmingham, was sentenced to eight years and three months, while Dale Catley, 35, from Minworth, near Sutton Coldfield, was sentenced to five years and three months.

The trio had previously pleaded guilty to conspiracy to supply drugs.

Former officer Turner was sacked by the force in 2009 for a separate offence of misconduct in a public office, after he passed information from police computers to convicted fraudsters.

The court heard how he was found with a kilogramme of drugs under his top after his black Audi was pulled over by police.

More drugs were recovered from the car's centre console.

Plain clothes officers also found two kilogrammes of coaine and £80,000 in cash in the boot of Catley's BMW after observing a drugs exchange between him and Sattar.

VE Day events to mark milestone

SANDWELL is to mark Victory in Europe Day and commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War in Europe.

The borough is joining a national chain of more than 200 beacons being lit to mark the day, using the special gas-fuelled beacon produced for VE Day this year with a unique burner head in the shape of a V for victory.

Sandwell Mayor Councillor Derek Rowley will light a beacon on the Rowley Hills tomorrow, Friday, at 9.32pm which people will be able to see from miles around.

Then on Sunday a commemorative service is planned. The Mayor will join members of the Royal British Legion at the War Memorial in Oldbury Civic Square at 10.30am. For more information, call 0121 553 0220.

Entertainment for all with fairy tale

ARTS Cafe is delighted to present another in our popular family show series at Central Sixth (formerly The Public) on Saturday at 2.30pm. A Real Fairy Story, sees comedy, magic and shadow puppetry some together. Admission is free.

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£1m boost for centre set for July in scheme

A SCHEME aimed at generating more than £1million to fund improvements in West Bromwich town centre will get underway on July 1, it has been announced.

West Bromwich will become a Business Improvement District (BID) after traders agreed to pay extra tax which will be invested in the town.

Bosses say the extra funding will aim to fill empty shops, improve town centre cleaning and signage, stage more events and encourage more people to shop in the town.

Cash will be spent on a new marketing campaign and town centre website in an effort to boost the town centre's fortunes. A total of £1.25 million will be generated from the creation of the scheme, which begins on July 1, with around 400 businesses paying up to £5,000 as part of the agreement.

The rate will be dependant on the size of their premises, although Sandwell Council said some of the smallest firms would not have to part with any cash at all.

Speaking about the BID, Mel Glasby, chairmain of the Town Centre Management Partnership, said: "This is great news for West Bromwich. The BID will ensure the town centre is a great place to do business.."

Plans for the BID were drawn up following a consultation with town centre businesses during the past year.

It is regarded as the latest boost for West Bromwich town centre, which has undergone significant regeneration in recent years.

Flights to Iceland are set to double

ICELAND'S airline is to double the number of flights between Birmingham and Reykjavik next year after the success of the new service, which was only launched in February.

Icelandair said it would increase services from two flights a week to four from February, operating each Tuesday and Saturday in addition to the current Monday and Thursday flights.

Paul Kehoe, chief executive at Birmingham Airport said: "Icelandair launched their Birmingham-Reykjavik service in February and it has gone from strength to strength in that short time. It's great to see the airline respond to passenger demand for this service by increasing the number of flights."

Armed police called to pub

ARMED police were scrambled to a pub in Coseley following reports shots were fired. Officers were called to the Red Cow in Edge Street at around 5pm on Sunday. West Midlands Police said no firearms were found.

Pupils flying the flag for their area

Youngsters seen with the special flag

SCHOOL pupils are hoping to do their bit to make the Black Country Festival even bigger this summer.

Organisers are aiming for more success when the event returns in July following its launch last year.

Thousands of people got behind the festival last summer as flags hung from windows across the Black Country and around 1,000 events took place which were attended by more than 100,000 visitors. Now youngsters are getting involved, with pupils from nine schools being made Black Country Champions. They have been tasked with coming up with ideas to improve the festival, which could include creating artwork and songs and writing poetry and short stories.

Children from Peter's Hill, Dingle and St Joseph's RC primary schools, Earls, Ridgewood, Crestwood and Kingswinford high schools and the Brier and Rosewood schools have all been selected to take part.

Dudley Council and festival organisers were keen to get more schools involved with planning this year's event. Steve Edwards, chairman of the Black Country Festival community group, said: "We know we can't stand still and we want this year to offer even more."

Following massive success last year, organisers now want to spread the Black Country love beyond Dudley and Sandwell and include more people in Wolverhampton and Walsall.

Black Country Festival runs throughout July and August. The main event is being held in Stone Street, Dudley on July 11. Black Country Day on July 14 is supported by four councils – Dudley, Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Walsall.

Astle Day marred by flare which hit fan

A BAGGIES fan suffered burns to his neck when he was hit by a flare thrown by an away supporter on Jeff Astle Day.

Leicester City fan Frazer Green had a court order banning him from all Foxes games but had managed to get into The Hawthorns.

The incident on April 11 sparked anger between the rival supporters on the special day in honour of the Albion legend but the police were able to keep them apart.

Green, of Flax Road, Leicester, threw the flare and it hit Baggies fan Ian Topliss on the back of the head before it fell into his hood caused minor burns to the back of his neck. He was left with a blister the size of a 10p coin

Appearing at Sandwell Magistrates Court, 20-year-old Green admitted possessing and throwing the missile, failing to comply with his banning order and assaulting Mr Topliss.

Mr Mark Cooper, prosecuting, said the whole thing was captured on CCTV at the ground. The footage showed Green, whose banning order was imposed in 2013 and runs until June next year, light the blue flare and throw it at the Albion fans.

Mr Cooper told the court that, in an bid to avoid being detained, Green then moved seat and put on a jacket to cover the distinctive T-shirt he was wearing.

But police identified and arrested him during the match. Mr Topliss was taken to the ground's medical suite. Mr Cooper added: "During the police interview Mr Green made a full and frank admission.

"He said in his interview he had bought the ticket for the game as a last minute decision from a friend. He travelled to Birmingham and went to a pub in the city centre where he had four of five pints of cider. He told police he was feeling tipsy. He made his way to the ground knowing he was breaching his order.

"He said he was passed the flare by another fan and then he quite stupidly threw it towards the West Bromwich Albion fans."

Mr Cooper added that when Green was told Mr Topliss had been injured by the flare he became upset. Miss Anjuli Shergill, defending, said her client did not dispute the circumstances of the incident as outlined by Mr Cooper in court.

Green was released on unconditional bail. He will return to Sandwell Magistrates Court on May 29 for sentencing.

First World War hero is recalled

Peter Carpenter and Warren McCabe-Smith with the picture of soldier Joseph Tranter from Cradley

THE memory of the first soldier from a Black Country town to be killed during the First World War has been preserved after a film group presented a framed photograph of him to a sports club.

The Midland Film and Art group provided the committee of Cradley Sports and Social Club with the photo of Joseph Tranter, who was a founding member of the former Liberal Club in Colley Lane, Cradley.

Mr Tranter was also the first man to die during the war while he was a reservist with the South Wales Borderers.

He was among the first to be called up to serve when war broke out with Germany. Within the very first weeks, he died in action during a bayonet skirmish on September 26, 1914 at Vendresse, France and has no known grave.

In his honour an enlarged photograph of himself, enclosed in a gold mount and oak frame with the inscription 'Died for King and Country' was hung in the club's premises on April 13.

However, following a leaking roof at the club, the memorial had been severely water damaged and Midland Film and Art stepped in with an offer to recreate the photograph in a new frame as part of the Cradley Memorials Heritage Project, which has received Heritage Lottery funding.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Memories of Manor sought

A REMINDER has gone out about reminiscences being sought on the Manor House Museum. Staff are aiming to create a special archive celebrating the 800-year-old site.

The Manor House in Hall Green Road – said to be one of the most important surviving medieval timber framed buildings in the Midlands – was originally built by Richard de Marnham in the 1270s.

Anyone wanting to share their memories can email museumartstourism@sandwell.gov.uk or call 0121 5530759.

Jail for dealer with cocaine

A DRUG dealer from the Black Country who was found with several wraps containing cocaine and a list of suppliers has been jailed for more than two years.

Shaun Hearsey was stopped in his car by police who were on their way to executing a warrant at his address in Stephenson Avenue, Walsall. A search of the car revealed several wraps of cocaine, two mobile phones and a notebook of contacts. The 26-year-old was jailed for 28 months at Wolverhampton Crown Court on April 24 after admitting supplying Class A drugs.

Interceptor pub opens at centre

A HUNGRY Horse restaurant has opened at West Bromwich's New Square shopping centre, creating 40 full and part-time jobs.

The Interceptor pays homage to the Jensen motor company which was based in the town for more than half a century.

The restaurant's name which was Jensen's most famous model, was suggested by John Harper from Great Barr and chosen by bosses at the Greene King brewery.

Focus on archives of West Bromwich

A SPECIAL event takes place on Wednesday focusing on West Bromwich archives at Sandwell Arts Cafe, Central Sixth.

Maureen Waldron, archives outreach officer, and artist Brendan Jackson from Laundry will talk about how the project was developed and realised with one of the founders of Jubilee, at 2pm. Kate Wheeler from the National Archives, will also be present, who is the Collections Knowledge Manager for the Archiving the Arts programme.

Spate of car crime

POLICE are investigating a spate of thefts from cars in Smethwick.

There have been 10 reported between April 2 and 22 across eight streets. Thefts took place in Dibble Road, Ford Street, Blackthorne Road, Green Street, Brisbane Road, Queens Close, Hales Lane and South Dene.

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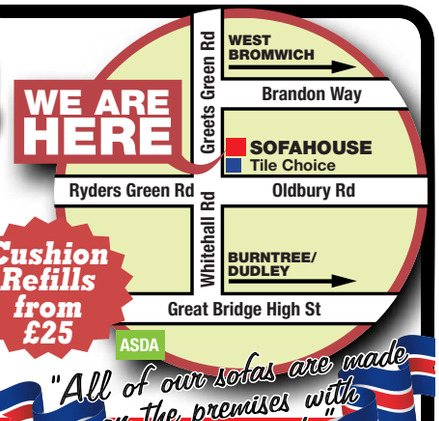

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Hangover? Just hang a garland round neck

THE throbbing headache, the churning stomach, if there ever was a real cure for a hangover its creator would make billions.

Well according to boffins at Oxford University, the ancient Egyptians thought they had it cracked.

Instead of Alka-Seltzer and ibuprofen, the ancient Egyptians believed that walking around with a garland round your neck is the best way to cure that morning-after feeling.

It's an interesting thought. But I would just love to see the conversation with the copper when explaining the unusual item of clothing at three in the morning.

❑❑❑❑❑

THE milestone birthday arrives, and the tabloids can barely control their excitement. Pages of coverage for days on end, and countless pictures.

No, not the new royal Princess, David Beckham's flippin' 40th birthday...

Does anybody really care? Forgive my indifference, but isn't it time we all learned to get over the middle-aged underpants salesman?

It has been many years since he played football at the top level, and I really don't understand what the continued fascination is with the man who always promised so much, but ultimately failed to live up to expectations.

When he burst into Alex Ferguson's exciting Manchester United side in the mid-1990s, he had the world at his feet, a prodigious talent who set the Premier League alight.

However, his story is ultimately one of a player who became so engrossed in the celebrity lifestyle that he never quite fulfilled his undoubted potential. Yes, he could cross a ball beautifully, and he had a fine free kick, but he always gave the impression of being more interested in partying with pop stars than getting stuck in on the football pitch.

A good footballer, yes, but never the great one he could have been.

And regardless, his footballing days are long over, so why do we need to be treated to endless pictures of him in his underwear?

Maybe to ladies of a certain age he is the bee's knees, but to me he is still the bloke who kicked the Argie up the bum and threw away our hopes of getting one over the old enemy.

❑❑❑❑❑

NOEL Gallagher has confessed that he steals plump pillows from Italian hotels so he can get a good night's sleep on tour.

Keith Moon used to throw television sets out of hotel windows. Ozzy Osbourne bit the head off a bat. Noel Gallagher half-inches fluffy soft furnishings.

Rock'n'roll excess. It ain't what it used to be, is it?

Making their way through the tunnels at Live The Adventure

Waiting to see if the coast is clear during the HART exercise

The paramedics with their dummy patient on the course

Medics have a HART for taste of adventure

Black Country-based elite paramedics used an adventure centre to prepare for the worst. **JAMES FISHER** tagged along

IT looked like a full blown disaster area, but skilled medics were just carrying out vital training.

The niche team of Black Country paramedics, who are called on to treat people stuck in difficult places, have been busy honing their skills at an outdoor adventure centre near Bridgnorth.

Live The Adventure, in Stottesdon, played host to the annual training of the West Midlands Hazardous Area Response Team, known as HART, by opening its doors free of charge.

The team of six were underground at the centre after their instructors set up an emergency disaster scenario where someone needing medical attention had become stuck in the confined tunnel system.

The team had to monitor the safety of the situation, get in and locate the person before carefully extracting them to safety.

Collapse

Team leader Carl Cooper said: "We are paramedics who are trained in urban search and rescue and reaching and treating people in confined spaces.

"So if someone is stuck in a tunnel or sewer or there is a structural collapse and they need emergency medical attention, we can take the care to them.

"We have to work together to monitor the environment and extricate them.

"Thursday was an annual update for us so that if it happens for real, we know we can get into those hazardous environments and deal with it."

Mr Cooper said Live The Adventure was the ideal venue to set up the confined tunnel rescue and the free use of its facilities was a generous offer.

"It's a great venue and their confined tunnel system has a large void where we will be able to access the patient and give treatment," he said.

"The staff have been so accommodating in helping us to set this up.

"They recognise the importance of this sort of training and to let us use their facilities for free is very generous."

Anthony Eddies-Davies, who runs centre, said he was happy to let HART use the facilities for their training.

"We know how vital it is to know exactly what to do in life-saving situations," he said.

"We run a range of professional training programmes for emergency services and defence personnel across the country and we understand how important it is to regularly stage realistic scenarios so you know how to handle the situation if you are confronted with it in real life."

Live The Adventure also offers one a range of professional training programmes and courses in the UK, which includes instructing the emergency services and international defence forces.

West Midlands Ambulance paramedic, Chris Harte, of the Hazardous Area Response Team

Chris Harte and Mark Hirons from Lichfield

On a mission – crawling through the tunnel

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Yet more M6 money down the drain

SO it appears £65 million must be spent on the M6 conurbation in the West Midlands. How much more cash do they need to throw at this motorway? I for one do not put any faith in a motorway with a non-running hard shoulder, very nice in bright weather, not so good in rain or dark conditions. Motorway signs on gantries help, if they work.

To me the hard shoulder is and should be for emergency only, not running vehicles.

The money spent so far on upgrading this particular piece of motorway going through Junctions 8, 9, 10, 11, together with the proposed £65m could have built M6-2 as opposed to HS2. Why not try to do a deal with the owners of the toll road; surely £65m would be welcome in their coffers? A large problem is the M5/M6 junction, the M5 should have been routed to join M6 north of Stafford where the traffic thins out a little.

It just goes to show when viewing the hold-ups and congestion the economy is booming and the best way to send goods is by road transport, regardless.

M SAXON
Tipton

Hedgehogs need help

AS we are in Hedgehog Awareness Week, which runs from May 3 to 9, I am writing to ask your readers to 'think hedgehog'!

Hedgehog Awareness Week is organised by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and takes place every year. Tips can be found on our website www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

There is so much that we can do to help the hedgehog in our own garden. Offering hedgehog food or a meaty pet food and water, especially during dry weather, can be a life saver.

Also cut back on pesticides, cover drains or deep holes, and ensure there is an easy route out of ponds and pools – these will take five minutes to do and help immensely. With hedgehog numbers in serious decline, helping them is more important than ever.

FAY VASS
BHPS

Not wholly the fault of government

THE letter from Phil Vanes depicting his memories from bygone years was eloquent and thought-provoking (Government needs to care for all, 23.4.15). Some may say they were indeed 'the good old days' and 'twas a time of respect.

I am not sure though blaming central government is always the answer. Despite the majority of governments being Conservative since the war, local authority rule has predominantly been Labour around these parts.

The emotional undertone from Mr Vanes' letter does suggest that there is no need for things to be like they are now and whilst probably right that equation does not take account of the population boom, mass immigration, and an obsessive arrogance to become more and more Americanised.

Then there is the lack of respect, lack of family values, judicial deterrent and responsible parents which have earmarked Britain today.

S HARRISON
West Bromwich

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
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Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Not only need for super hospitals

IT has become apparent to me over the past few months, that whilst the new 'Super Hospitals' incorporate all of the new equipment that cannot be put in place in all of the smaller hospitals, there is a need for more local community hospitals.

Here non-acute patients can receive treatment and rehabilitation by dedicated staff who have the time and expertise to help people towards discharge, that the bigger hospitals cannot provide.

This is not meant as a criticism of the front line at the super hospitals but pure common sense. This is not only my view, but that of many people with whom I have had conversations.

Our leaders would have us believe that bigger is best, but this is not the case. Patients are individuals each with individual needs and it is about time that this were recognised by those making the rules. Perhaps with smaller hospitals it may be that managers could manage effectively, rather than it seems at present.

Perhaps the biggest insult of all though, is to read of the huge salaries and increases in salary of the chief executives whilst front line staff receive nothing. Maybe these executives should spend more time on the shop floor talking with relatives of patients who have so many complaints.

L HALES
Cradley Heath

Parties as bad as each other

I CANNOT understand the English and why they vote.

I will never vote again because the parties are as bad as each other.

They gave themselves big rises, yet they are on fantastic money without rises.

We have a little rise on our pensions and then they take money off us cutting our pension credit; give you in one hand take back in the other hand.

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Hundreds facing jobs axe at hospital trust to save £16m

MORE than 200 jobs face being axed at Sandwell's hospital trust during the next 12 months to slash more than £16 million from the wage bill.

It's the next phase of wider plans by Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals Trust to cut around 1,400 posts over five years. Bosses are looking to scrap 205 'whole time equivalent' positions by March 2016 – but say around 260 workers are expected to be affected by the move.

A consultation is under way and it's hoped that a 'significant' number of the posts can be cut by redeploying staff or not recruiting to vacant roles.

The hospital trust, which runs Sandwell Hospital and City Hospital, has already redeployed 150 workers to other roles since first announcing its wider plans last year.

Despite looking at reducing its pay bill, the hospital trust has vowed to continue investing in more A&E consultants and nurses.

A report by chief executive Toby Lewis, which went before directors of the trust's board, says: "A statutory consultation process will commence for affected staff groups. Circa 260 staff will be affected by the changes proposed. A significant amount of posts will be released through the disestablishment of vacant posts and re-deployment."

The report says the plans will reduce the trust's pay costs by £16.1m.

It comes after NHS inspectors declared that Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust requires improvement.

A&E, medical care, surgery and children and young people's services also required improvement, the Care Quality Commission report found.

Critical care and end of life care were rated as 'good', but outpatient services were rated as 'inadequate'.

Protection of pub may be under threat

CAMPAIGNERS fear the decision to give a Cradley Heath pub protection against developers may be overturned after an internal review was granted.

The Haden Cross in Halesowen Road has been listed by Sandwell Council as an Asset of Community Value. It followed a bid by a friends group, which was set up to safeguard the future of the pub and fight plans to build a Co-Operative store on its car park.

Last month Sandwell Council planning officers rejected the convenience store and agreed to list the pub as an ACV. But pub owner, Jersey-based property developer New River Retail, has requested an internal review of the decision.

Friends group chairman Tim Haskey said the group was disappointed by the decision. He added a provisional date of May 14 had been set for the hearing.

It's a hole ninth wonder for Jayden

Jayden Phipps, aged eight, from Wednesbury, at the Three Hammers Golf Club near Coven, after getting his hole in one

HE'S only eight-years-old, but golfing prodigy Jayden Phipps has already struck his ninth hole-in-one.

Despite his age, he's already had a remarkable career, being crowned Midland junior golf champion last year and preparing for his first international golf tournament in the summer.

Jayden, from Wednesbury, hit the wonder shot at the first hole at the Three Hammers Golf Course in Coven, where he trains most mornings before school.

Proud dad Ashley Phipps, aged 51, said: "It's great to watch Jayden play and I enjoy helping him out – I'm his caddy. He hit the shot about 7.20am on Monday morning and it was his first shot of the day. He hit his first hole in one two years ago during a competition."

Jayden will be defending his Midland Champion title at the Three Hammers in July.

Health site future to be decided on

THE future of a proposed £9 million health centre for Wednesbury will be revealed soon.

Sandwell councillor Bob Lloyd, who represents Wednesbury South, said he has been told by NHS England planners that the health body does intend to build the new health centre in the town and says he expects more detail to follow the general election.

He said more information is needed about where the surgery will be sited and what services it will offer, though Mr Lloyd said the plan was for the facility to offer some hospital services when the new Midland Metropolitan Hospital opens.

He said the 670-bed hospital would be smaller than the existing Sandwell and Birmingham City hospitals and the plan was for more services to be taken on by local health centres, including the new surgery at Wednesbury, which is set to also incorporate the Malling Health and Spires Health Centre. He added: "My fear would be that Sandwell and City hospitals close, Midland Metropolitan opens and facilities in Wednesbury are unable to cope."

In 2013, Sandwell Council's planning committee unanimously voted to grant planning approval for a health centre in High Bullen.

Long-running homes plan revived for town

PLANS to build dozens of homes in Cradley Heath, which were first submitted nearly a decade ago, have moved a step closer to reality.

Developers have revealed detailed proposals for homes set to be built on land of Bannister Street.

International Design and Construction first unveiled the plans in 2006 but despite securing planning permission work never began as the recession hit.

Last tango in Brum for Strictly stars

Strictly Come Dancing's Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace are soon to be touring in The Last Tango, appearing in Brum

STRICTLY Come Dancing stars Vincent Simone and Flavia Cacace return to Birmingham Hippodrome later this year for their final production.

The dancing pair will take to the popular theatre's stage between Tuesday September 22 and Saturday September 26 as part of their new show The Last Tango.

This will be their most moving production yet as the pair prepare to dance in their final ever theatre show before they both venture into new projects.

The talented double act have danced together for 20 years and during that time have become much -oved favourites on the BBC Saturday night show as well as World Argentine Tango Champions and create and star in their own Olivier Award-nominated West End productions.

Flavia said; "It's an incredible experience to perform live in front of our wonderful audience night after night, but all good things must come to an end, so we're creating our final ever theatre show. Tickets for the shows cost between £18.50 and £45 and can be purchased online www.birminghamhippodrome.com or by calling 0844 338 5000.

Number of GP patients increases by 17,000

MORE than 17,000 extra patients have registered with GPs in and around Sandwell in the past two years.

But conversely the number of Dudley-registered patients has dropped. The figures have been released by the Health and Social Care Information Centre and show a steady increase elsewhere in the Black Country.

Across the West Midlands there has been an increase of almost 50,000 in two years, at a time when GP surgeries are already under tremendous pressure.

Long waiting times for appointments have been reported across the region with patients sometimes having to wait weeks.

It is in Sandwell and West Birmingham where the biggest Black Country increase has been reported.

In April 2013 the area had 538,683 patients registered by a GP. Now that number is 555,864 - a jump of 17,181. In Walsall 5,160 extra patients have registered in the past two years, up to 277,105.

Wolverhampton's number has increased slightly by 2,500, meaning 265,636 patients are registered with

Report by Tim Spiers

a GP. The Sandwell figure reflects an increase seen across Birmingham, with the south and central parts of the city seeing an 8,300 rise. Across England numbers have gone up by almost one million.

Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG spokesman James Turner said: "There are a number of reasons that could explain the figures. We have above average birth rate locally, and a higher than average transient population, with people both coming into and leaving the borough.

"We are continuing to work with practices to look at how we can improve access to GP services. Many of our practices are also considering how they can make best use of technology."

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Icon Madeleine to be focus of arts festival

THIS year's Sandwell Arts Festival will culminate with a dance and procession celebrating West Bromwich-born Hollywood film icon Madeleine Carroll, organisers have announced.

The first details of the programme for the event, which will run from August 12 to 23 and attracts thousands of people every year, have been revealed.

Events will be taking place in Sandwell's six towns and there will be a wide range of activities and attractions taking place on the high street, in parks and in libraries around the borough. Organisers are teaming up with Creative Black Country for No Fit State Circus, a street circus performance in West Bromwich, on August 15 and 16, which is expected to be one of the highlights of the festival.

Biggest

On August 22, there will be the Giants' Dance – this will celebrate the life of Madeleine Carroll, one of the borough's most famous daughters.

Carroll, who was born in Herbert Street, West Bromwich in 1906, took the movie world by storm in the 1930s and 40s appearing in some of the biggest films of that era. At the height of her success, she was the highest-paid actress in Hollywood.

Sandwell Council's arts service manager Garry Morris said: "Madeleine Carroll is the West Bromwich girl who shot to fame in Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps, as well as starring in other big films such as The Prisoner of Zenda."

"We're encouraging people to save the date and look out for details of activities over the coming months," he added.

Sandwell Arts Cafe, based at Sandwell College's Central Sixth campus, formerly The Public building, will be taking centre stage for a number of festival events.

Anyone wanting to get involved or get more information can get further details by emailing lucy_monk@sandwell.gov.uk

Clocking off for revamp

The Bearwood Clock, seen in position at Birmingham city centre

A LANDMARK clock will be renovated by specialists before it returns to take pride of place in the heart of Bearwood.

The Bearwood Clock was moved last week from Birmingham city centre to head off to Derby for restoration and repair work.

Restoration will be completed ahead of it returning to its historic home of Bearwood later this year.

The familiar landmark had stood outside the Kings Head pub in Bearwood since 1900. But it was moved in 1971 to make way for road widening and for the last few decades has stood in a shopping mall in Birmingham city centre.

Sandwell Councillor Bob Piper said: "It is pretty good news really. I think it will be quite a focal point at the top of Bearwood Road by Hagley Road and of course it is the old clock that used to be there in 1900."

A £2 million scheme to improve the safety and appearance of Bearwood Road and Cape Hill has already got under way.

Funding for the project was earmarked from Sandwell Council's revenue surplus.

The first phase involves pedestrian crossings and lighting being upgraded.

Pavements and street furniture along the route will also be improved.

Council officials said preliminary work was already taking place along the route with the main work to take place in phases over the coming months.

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Kate first past the post as top coach

Lisa O'Keefe, director of Insight at Sport England presents Kate with her national coaching award

A SANDWELL-based sports coach has received a top award from national charity StreetGames.

Kate Roberts received the Coach of the Year award at a national awards night held at the University of Warwick.

Kate's work encouraging females to take the lead at activities at the George Salter Academy in West Bromwich, and the inspiration she provides to an army of 15 other volunteers was recognised at the awards night.

She is also head coach at the West Bromwich Netball Club. After collecting the award, Kate, said: "I feel really honoured to win. It's just great to be acknowledged for the work that we've done over the last few years."

Kate was chosen from nearly a thousand projects from across the country with judges applauding the commitment to helping to change the lives of young people in West Bromwich. Launched in 2007, national sports charity StreetGames is supported by Sport England, Sport Wales and Coca-Cola Great Britain. StreetGames provides support to a network of 638 projects in disadvantaged communities across the UK, which help to make sport accessible.

Fake pack cigarettes trader is spared jail

A ROGUE shop owner found with nearly 700 packs of fake and wrongly labelled cigarettes has been spared jail.

Trading Standards officers found 671 illicit packs of cigarettes and 79 packets of rolling tobacco in two raids at Abby's International Supermarket in High Street, West Bromwich.

Appearing at Sandwell Magistrates Court, Saror Ali was given a suspended 12-week jail term and ordered to pay £2,779.20 in costs.

At a previous hearing he had admitted 17 charges of offering to supply tobacco products without the required health warning and five charges of possessing goods with a false trademark. Trading Standards officers first visited the store on September 30 last year accompanied by police officers and a sniffer dog, the court heard.

Mrs Julia Lynch, prosecuting on behalf of Sandwell Council, said they seized 486 packs of cigarettes and 71 packets of rolling tobacco in several locations including on the shelves, within a till, in a magnetic draw behind the counter and in a loft hatch above the toilet. Officers returned to the shop on November 12 to give Ali, who lives at the shop's premises, a letter requiring him to attend an interview.

Report by Rob Cox

Mrs Lynch said during this second visit a further 185 packs of illicit cigarettes and eight packets of illicit rolling tobacco were found, again in multiple locations. Ali, aged 41, sold the packets of rolling tobacco for £4 and the packs of 20 cigarettes for £2.50. The shop has since had its licence to sell alcohol revoked.

Ali was given two six week jail terms to run consecutively, both of which were suspended for 18 months. He was given a further six week sentence to run alongside the others, which was also suspended for 18 months.

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Community heroes are honoured with awards

COMMUNITY volunteers and dedicated groups have been celebrated at an awards ceremony honouring their efforts in West Bromwich.

Nominations were received ahead of the annual West Bromwich Community Recognition Awards.

Musicians Holly Wright, Linda Simpson and Chris Ray provided entertainment at the awards evening, which was held at West Bromwich Town Hall.

Winner of one of the night's top honours was Beryl Price who collected the Mayor of Sandwell's award.

Mrs Price, aged 74, from the Yew Tree Estate, has been a member of Wesley Church in West Bromwich, for 70 years and works with various community organisations.

Brambles

Malcolm Glass and his volunteer team won the Volunteer of the Year award for their clean up project of the All Saints' churchyard. They helped rediscover war graves, cutting back long grass, weeds and brambles. The winner of the Cleaner Greener Award was the Friends of Holly Wood group. The woodland nature reserve is off Whitecrest in Great Barr.

The People in Mind project won the Healthier Communities which provides support, advice and guidance to those suffering from mental illness.

Shop Mobility won the business community award for providing 'excellent' service in the town centre.

Young Person Award winner was Callum Durrant, who is the chairman West Bromwich Youth Council. The Learner Award winner was Busy Bees, Community Safety Award winner was Rosemary Bailey andPatricia Brocklesby won the Carers Award.

Mayor of Sandwell Derek Rowley with the Mayor's Award winner Beryl Price

Ambulance service is tops

THE West Midlands Ambulance Service has been named as the best performing service in the country.

Its paramedics responded to heart attack patients faster than anywhere else and control rooms staff were quickest to answer 999 calls.

Only two services bettered its performance for reaching all other types of life-threatening emergencies.

In the Department of Health figures, the service also came second for the amount of time it took for a patient-carrying vehicle to reach scenes of emergencies. Its performance across the board during 2014/15 could not be matched by any other service.

The service's chief executive Anthony Marsh said the results demonstrated the 'incredibly hard work' of ambulance staff. Figures showed the West Midlands Ambulance Service had beaten its target of reaching patients who were suffering heart attacks or severe breathing difficulties within eight minutes.

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Margot is inspiration for stem cell event

Margot Martini, who died

A DRIVE to register stem cell donors will take place in memory of toddler Margot Martini.

The Croft in Hydes Road, Wednesbury, will host the event on Saturday May 23.

Potential bone marrow donors will be able to join the register by giving a swab of their DNA between noon and 6.30pm.

There will also be a barbecue, face and nail painting, bouncy castles and games for children.

Margot, whose family are from Essington and Wolverhampton, died aged two last year from leukaemia.

She sparked a worldwide hunt for a bone marrow donor match.

But tragically, after her transplant the leukaemia returned.

Family and friends have launched the Team Margot Foundation to raise awareness of the need for donors.

For more information about the event go to www.teammargot.com

FOCUS ON WEDNESBURY

Closure plans for centre is labelled devastating blow

By Heather Large

UNION leaders have described plans to close a huge distribution centre in Wednesbury, putting up to 500 jobs at risk, as 'devastating'.

Dixons Carphone has unveiled a proposal to close its doors and relocate to Newark in Nottinghamshire.

Bosses said staff would be offered jobs at the new site – more than 80 miles from the distribution and repairs centre off Bilston Road.

But the Communication Workers Union has spoken out against the proposals saying it's 'not realistic' to expect people to relocate to Newark. Vicki Cornelius, branch secretary for Birmingham, Black Country and Worcester, said: "This is devastating news for everyone who works at the Wednesbury site and for the local community which is an area of high unemployment.

Laughable

"It's not a huge surprise to workers but to get this news is just awful.

"For the company to say that people can keep their jobs is laughable.

"It's simply not realistic for people to uproot their families and lives to move 90 miles away for a job which hardly pays well – would you do that for £17,000 a year?

And it's not clear if there's financial support or assistance being offered or redundancy packages either."

Bosses at the firm – which started life following a merger between hi-tech retail giants Carphone Warehouse and Currys Pc World last year – insist it is just a proposal at this stage and no final decision has been made.

Keepers Zoe Taylor and Simon Moore celebrate 10 years of Lemur Wood

Firm's help for lemurs leads to decade of wood

A FIRM in Wednesbury is reaping the rewards of its generous donation to Dudley Zoo, after it helped with the costs of setting up a habitat for lemurs a decade ago.

Zoo chiefs were celebrating the 10th anniversary of its first walk-through exhibit Lemur Wood last week, and say that it would not have been possible without Rubery Owen Holdings Ltd's contribution towards the £38,000 costs.

The one-acre paddock, where visitors come face-to-face with free-roaming lemurs, opened to the public in April 2005. Even now, it is still the most popular exhibit at the zoo. The facility is home to 18 lemurs that can climb, run and jump around visitors.

Since Lemur Wood opened, zoo staff have gone on to develop three more impressive walk-through exhibits – Monkey Tails, Wallaby Walkthrough and Penguin Bay. Zoo director Derek Grove, who led the team which designed and built the innovative attraction, said: "Lemur Wood gives our visitors a unique close encounter with many endangered species."

As well as using existing trees and undergrowth, more than 100 trees and 300 shrubs were planted in 2005 and the wood is home to nine ring-tailed, four black and white ruffed, two black and three collared lemurs.

Crossing in upgrade at crash site

A PEDESTRIAN crossing where a woman was knocked down by a lorry and killed will have new signals to boost safety.

Lorraine Sheridan, aged 62, was knocked down by a lorry while using the puffin crossing in High Bullen, in Wednesbury, in 2014 and later died.

An inquest heard she had crossed on a red man signal, but her family said the pedestrian signals could have been clearer if it was a pelican crossing. Unlike a puffin crossing, a pelican crossing has a signal from the opposite side of the road, facing the pedestrian.

Now a new signal will be positioned on the crossing so it can be seen on the opposite site of the carriageway when people cross.

Sandwell Council's highways department confirmed that work was due to have been completed by the end of this week.

War roadshow due at school

PEOPLE are being invited to an event detailing personal items from the Second World War in Wednesbury.

Wood Green Academy, in Wood Green Road, is hosting a second roadshow on May 13. The events, which take place between 4.30pm and 6pm, are open to the public. Students and families are being asked to bring in items from the war.

Email rachel.hindle@woodgreenacademy.co.uk for details.

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Pupils Flip over to boost maths skills

SCHOOLS in the Black Country have been trialling a special maths programme that enables teachers to monitor pupils' progress online.

The 24 schools across Dudley, Sandwell, Birmingham and Walsall have received £500,000 funding from the Education Endowment Foundation for the Maths Flip programme which is a two-year project working with pupils in years five and six to help them to improve their skills.

The resource enables pupils to carry out pre-learning whereby their teacher posts a Powerpoint presentation to an online site and the children complete a task so the teacher can see how well they have done and adjust their classroom lesson to accommodate any extra learning the pupil needs to complete.

Jennifer Devaney, project manager at Shireland Collegiate Academy in Smethwick, said the course replaced the traditional pen and paper method of doing homework and made it easier for tutors to keep track of pupils' work.

Kirsty Tonks, a project director, said: "With Maths Flip, we are receiving a high amount of attention from around the country. The Educational Endowment Foundation say it is the most successful project that they have granted money for for a school-based project ."

Abdul Noor, Molly-Mae Wilkinson and Maria Kaid, with their teacher Claire Watmore at Shireland

Care home opens in Black Country

A MULTI-MILLION pound purpose-built care home has officially opened in the Black Country creating 50 new jobs with the promise of more to come.

Veronica House, based on Leabrook Road in Tipton, is owned by James and Veronica Lovell, directors of Hunstone Ltd, and is managed by their daughter-in-law Elaine with support of their director sons – David and Andrew. It sits alongside its sister home Leabrook House which has been serving the community for almost three decades.

The new care facility has 52 en-suite single bedrooms and was developed with funding from Barclays Bank.

The accommodation provides specialist nursing care for adults with a range of complex physical disabilities, end of life care and treatment of disease, disorder or injury. Both homes employ physiotherapy teams who work between the gyms and warm water therapy pools.

PDSA £1.8m base is set for finish next month

The PDSA animal hospital building in Oldbury

A £1.8 MILLION animal hospital which will treat thousands of sick and injured pets is taking shape in Oldbury as work continues.

By Heather Large

The People's Dispensary for Sick Animals (PDSA) is building the centre on a site off Wolverhampton Road to replace its existing base in Quinton.

Work began in January and now contractors are beginning to fit out the inside of the premises.

There will be operating theatres, a critical care ward and the latest diagnostic and surgical equipment inside. The project is expected to be completed next month when charity staff can move into their new base.

Site manager Rob Toy said: "Work is on track for completion in the middle of June." The centre will also act as a teaching hospital to develop the skills of graduate and specialist vets. There will also be a dental theatre and six consulting rooms as well as staff accommodation.

A total of 20 full-time equivalent staff and cleaners will be based at the practice. PDSA senior vet surgeon in Quinton, Ian Fleming, said: "The new hospital will provide us with advanced, modern facilities and a spacious environment to treat even more pets."

More than £1m has been raised to pay for the hospital, which will be called The Marian and Christina Ionescu Centre of Surgical Excellence. Mr Marian Ionescu, a heart surgeon, and Dr Christina Ionescu, a cardiologist, are both animal lovers and made a significant, but undisclosed, donation to the project. Plans to build a new animal hospital in the borough have been in the pipeline since 2011. The existing centre on Hagley Road, Quinton, has become too small for the charity's needs.

PDSA's team of vets and nurses in Quinton currently provide more than 90,000 treatments a year and can see up to 190 patients every day. The new hospital will allow staff to increase these numbers by around 25 per cent to provide more than 112,000 treatments annually. The charity, set up in 1917, provides free veterinary care for those who cannot afford expensive vet fees.

The charity is still appealing for donations towards the new hospital in Quinton.

Anyone wishing to help can text 'BUILD' to 70099 to donate £2, or text 'BUILD' to 70800 to donate £5. Call the fundraising team on 0800 0199004.

Emma is outdoors

JANE Austin's much-loved Emma will be brought to life at a Black Country beauty spot.

Heartbreak Theatre Company are returning to Warley Woods for the fifth year running on July 30.

People are invited to bring along picnics and blankets for during the performance.

Tickets cost £8 for children, £12 for adults and £35 for a family ticket. The performance area opens at 6.30pm. The performance will finish around 10pm and is suitable for children aged 8 and above.

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Sonia's link to school past with nursing role

WHEN LIFE comes full circle it is a pleasure to see, and Sonia Williams is a great example of just that!

As a child, Sonia attended Leasowes School on the very site on which she now works at the Leasowes Immediate Care Centre. Sonia has been an Intermediate Care Nurse at Leasowes for around 11 years, a few months before it was first constructed in 2004.

"I joined the intermediate care team at Leasowes months before the building opened as the team was formed so that the crossover would be smooth.

"We used to share offices with the social workers in Smethwick in the meantime," Sonia said.

"When it opened in June 2004 it still wasn't ready for patients until January the next year but all the staff moved into the building to get it ready."

Therapists

As an Intermediate Care Nurse, Sonia's role is integral to the running of her service as her particular patients require a lot of specialist care and consideration.

"I provide whatever my patients' need and refer them to specialists such as speech and language therapists and dieticians and also ensure that our supplies are ordered and that we never run out of anything."

Her role at Leasowes hasn't been her only role in the Trust.

"I have worked within the trust since 1988 when I worked at the Dudley Road Hospital, which is now City Hospital, then moved onto Sandwell before coming to Leasowes, but I trained at Russell's Hall Hospital ."

NHS HEROES

ONCE again we focus some of our time on the quiet heroes of the NHS, from a wide variety of backgrounds doing a wide variety of jobs.

Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS Trust is one of the Black Country's largest NHS organisations.

It employs 7,500 people, many of whom live locally.

Last year, the trust provides care from 150 locations.

This week we highlight:

SONIA WILLIAMS
Intermediate Care Nurse

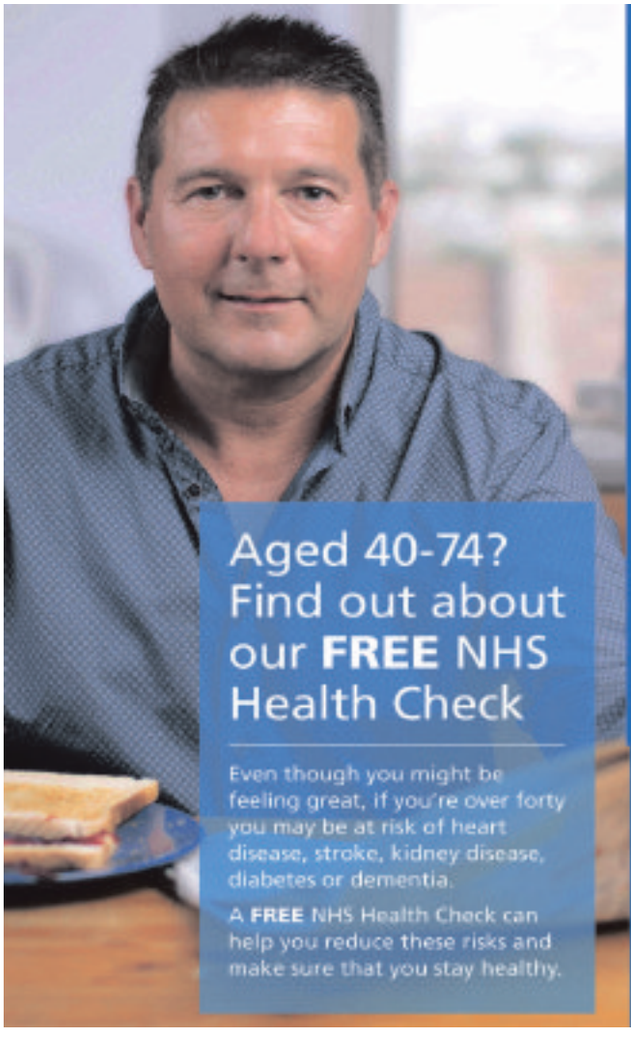
Working in healthcare in the Birmingham area is definitely a family affair for Sonia as her sisters have worked in different hospitals in the area.

"One of my sisters works at Heartlands in the Endoscopy department and my other sister, who has retired now, was a HCA at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital after working in the Burns Unit at Sandwell."

Sonia has not come up against too many difficulties during her 27-year nursing career, thanks mostly to the care and compassion she has shown throughout the years. "I just love caring for and helping people" Sonia explained.

"It may sound really simple, but there is no better feeling than seeing someone leave significantly improved from when they came in."

"We have had cases where we looked at a patient being brought in for rehabilitation and we have thought it will be a big challenge and when they walk out it gives the whole team a great sense of pride."



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60 showroom jobs lost as Carcraft collapses

FIVE hundred jobs have been lost at used car supermarket chain Carcraft – including around 60 at its showroom in Wednesbury – as administrators were called in.

Staff at the 13-acre Darlaston Road site were told last Thursday morning that the business was going into administration.

Administrators said the group, which sold more than 12,000 used vehicles a year, had been heavily loss making and had recorded losses of around £8m a year for a number of years. The firm – the UK's seventh largest second hand dealership chain with 10 sites across the country – has now ceased trading and all 500 employees have been informed and made redundant.

All employees were paid last week for the month of April. Administrator Daniel Smith of Grant Thornton UK said: "With great regret a conclusion was reached that it is no longer viable to keep Carcraft in operation. In order to prevent further losses it has been agreed with management and creditors to cease operations."

The group's finance arm, All In One Finance, which is regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, is expected to be placed into administration shortly, once FCA clearance has been obtained. Carcraft customers with Drive Happy Plans (DHP), a warranty, MOT, servicing and roadside assistance product will no longer be covered and all elements of the policy will not be fulfilled by Carcraft.

"Carcraft will retain a skeleton staff to assist with the realisation of assets."It is our intention to explore with an alternative provider whether they could provide the roadside assistance element of the DHP cover at a favourable rate," said Mr Smith.

Carcraft, which was founded in 1951, opened the Wednesbury site in 2001 and it employed more than 200 there at its peak.

The Wednesbury motor dealership Carcraft where 60 jobs have gone

3D scanning breakthrough

STATE of the art 3D scanning technology pioneered by West Midlands Police has been hailed as a major breakthough in detective work after it helped put a Black Country murderer behind bars.

Lorenzo Simon from Smethwick was sentenced to life in prison for the barbaric killing of housemate Michael Spalding whose body was chopped up and stuffed inside suitcases before being hurled into the Birmingham Canal. Detectives recovered part of the victim's humerus from an oil drum in their garden – used as a furnace to destroy evidence – which the new technology proved was a seamless fit with a limb found in the case, providing a vital link to the suspect.

And the same 3D scanning technique also proved laceration links between a saw recovered from the canal-bed and marks found on other bones from the suitcases.

The University of Warwick's research centre has helped to deploy it on four cases to date. These included three murder trials.

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Right back to the start – William Henry Fellows, founder of the company, seen on the favoured transport of the time

A sign of the times – Fellows' history stretches back nearly 140 years

A treasure trove of history

ESTABLISHED in 1876, Fellows & Sons Ltd is one of the oldest and most respected firms of auctioneers and valuers in the UK, with their head office and saleroom based in Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter.

The company's origin can be traced back to the collapse of an order for bicycles. When William Henry Fellows was left with the unwanted order he decided to sell the bicycles by auction along with his wife Louisa, who was a pawnbroker and used auctions to sell uncollected pledges.

It was in the 1920s that the auction house grew when William's son, Francis, sold items on behalf of refugees escaping the ravages of the Russian Revolution.

In the 1930s people escaping Nazi persecution were able to smuggle out some of their wealth and sell it during sales at

MEMORY LANE

By Graeme Andrew

Fellows. Auctions during this period also included lost property from the Royal Mail.

The move to its current location at Augusta House in the Jewellery Quarter took place in 1990.

By this time, Fellows had built up a reputation specialising in jewellery auctions and also set up a fine art and furniture department. Since the 1990s, the company has expanded from five to over 75 staff, holding more than 100 sales a year.

Tremendous

A recent addition to the Fellows' repertoire is the specialist 'watch sale', which launched earlier this year and continues to be a tremendous success for both watch vendors and buyers alike who visit the monthly sale.

Whilst still holding over 50 Jewellery sales a year, which range from fortnightly jewellery sales to the glittering monthly antique and modern jewellery auctions, a series of niche sales in markets such as coins, vintage jewellery, and silver still take place.

The continuing change in inventory at Fellows means that the auction house is continuously surrounded by a hub of excitement amongst those who are lovers of antiques, watches and jewellery throughout the year.

Anyone interested can visit the website to see the upcoming auction calendar, by logging onto www.fellows.co.uk.

As well as in the second city, the auctioneers have an office in Mayfair to better serve clients based in London and the surrounding area.

Upcoming events at Fellows include – Jewellery & Watches: Today, Thursday May 7; Antique & Modern Jewellery: Thursday May 14; Watches & Watch Parts: Monday May 18; Jewellery & Watches: Thursday May 21; The Watch Sale: Tuesday May 26.

Gem of a company – Treasures are for sale at the firm situated in Birmingham's Jewellery Quarter

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Auctioneers & Valuers
Antiques | Jewellery | Watches

Inviting entries to our upcoming auctions

Visit our saleroom in Birmingham's historic Jewellery Quarter every **Wednesday between 10am - 4pm** for **free valuations** of your unwanted antiques, coins, jewellery and watches.

If you're happy with the estimates given, you can consign your items to our next appropriate auction.

Alternatively for house clearances, please phone **0121 212 2131** to arrange for a specialist to meet you.

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Upcoming auctions

Thursday 14th May - Antique & Modern Jewellery
Thursday 21st May - Jewellery
Tuesday 26th May - The Watch Sale
Monday 8th June - Vintage Jewellery & Accessories
Thursday 11th June - Jewellery
Thursday 18th June - Antique & Modern Jewellery

Visit **www.fellows.co.uk** to view full catalogues for our weekly auctions

Fellows Auctioneers
www.fellows.co.uk

Jewellery Quarter Saleroom | 0121 212 2131 | 19 Augusta Street, Birmingham, B18 6JA
Mayfair Office | 020 712 4198 | 2nd Floor, 3 Queen Street, London, W1J 5PA

fellowsauctions

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Take it away

Take That preview – Page 21

Thea Gilmore

See Page 21

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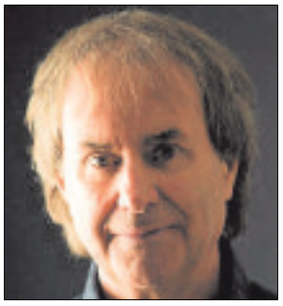
Dames Of Darkness

Sat, Sun from 2pm
Robin 2, Bilston
The fifth edition of 'The Dames of Darkness Festival 'takes place over Saturday and Sunday with new and established bands from the UK, Europe and The United States.
Visit **www.therobin.co.uk**

Chris de Burgh



Wednesday, 7.30pm
Symphony Hall, B'ham
Be among the first to hear live renditions of Chris de Burgh's 20th studio album The Hands of Man that captures his lyrical style but with a nod to 21st century techniques.
Visit **www.thsh.co.uk**

Andy Parsons

Saturday, 8pm
Gatehouse, Stafford
Andy's fifth show 'Live and Unleashed – But Naturally Cautious' sees the star of BBC2's 'Mock The Week' and 'Live At The Apollo' hitting the road again delivering more sharp comedy.
www.staffordgatehousetheatre.co.uk

Beyond The Barricades 2015

Saturday, 7.30pm
Grand Theatre, W'ton
Recreating original musical hit songs with amazing authenticity, this cast of past principal performers from Les Miserables present a blockbusting two-hour show.
Visit **www.grandtheatre.co.uk**

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Take That
Mon, Tue, Thu at 7.30pm, £61.20 - £94.20
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Dames Of Darkness Festival 5
Sat, Sun at 2pm - 1am, £25 - £45
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Twenty One Pilots
Wed at 7pm,
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Ultimate Genesis
Sat at 6.30pm, £14.62
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

The Smiths Indeed
Fri at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £15
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Gryphon
Tue at 7.30pm, £15 - £16
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Terry Reid
Wed at 7.30pm, £15 - £16
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

UK Subs
Thu at 7.30pm, £12 - £14
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ. Call 01902 401211

Chris de Burgh
Wed at 7.30pm, £40 - £60
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

Hoobastank plus POD and Alien Ant Farm
Fri at 7pm, £24.21
The Wulfrun, Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.
Call 01902 552106

Fearless Vampire Killers
Sun at 7pm, £10.12
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Alabama Shakes
Wed at 7pm, £21.93
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Pretty Vicious
Sun at 7.30pm, £6.00 Adv
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Twin Atlantic
Fri at 6pm, £18.56
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Belle and Sebastian
Sun at 7.45pm, £25
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

The Maccabees
Mon at 7pm, £23.00 Adv
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Into The Shadows
Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £16
Prince Of Wales Centre, Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

ABBA – Swede Dreamz
Sat at 8pm, £8
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

UB40 – Labour of Love
Fri at 8pm, £8
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Midge Ure and India Electric Co
Wed at 7.30pm, £17.75 - £18.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

The Vamps
Fri at 7pm, £33.74 - £37.10
Genting Arena, Birmingham, B40 1NT. Call 0121 780 4141

Dr Hook
Thu at 7pm, £27.50 - £29.50
The Wulfrun, Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.
Call 01902 552106

Voca People
Tue at 7.30pm, £20 - £21
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Merrymouth
Sat at 8pm, £14 - £16
mac birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, B12 9QH.
Call 0121 446 3232

Irish Session
Wed at 8pm, Free
Katie Fitzgerald's, Wollaston, Stourbridge, DY8 3TB.
Call 01384 374410

Nizlopi
Tue at 7pm, £15
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD.
Call 0871 472 0400

Brewood Acoustic Club – Bill Caddick
Thu at 8pm, £6
Brewood Cricket Club, ST19 9HX.
Call 01902 850422

Thea Gilmore with Special Guests
Sat at 8pm, £19.50 - £24.50
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

John Tams & Barry Coope
Mon at 7.30pm, £13
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Country Music Nights
Sun at 8.15pm,
Swan With Two Necks, Longdon, WS15 4PN.
Call 01543 491570

RNB & SOUL

Boyz II Men
Tue at 7pm, £34.87
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Clare Maguire
Fri at 8pm, £7
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

JAZZ & BLUES

Paul Lamb & The King Snakes
Sat at 8pm, £7.50 - £15
Lichfield Guildhall, WS13 6LU.
Call 01543 262223

Duets for Django
Fri at 7.30pm, £14
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

ReedBass
Fri at 5pm, Free
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

The Harp Live Jazz (May)
Sun at 12.30pm, Tue at 8.30pm, Free
The Harp Hotel, Albrighton, Wolverhampton, WV7 3JF.
Call 01902 374381

The Rescue Blues
Fri at 7pm, £5.50
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552106

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Beyond the Barricades 2015
Sat at 7.30pm, £18.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

A Night at the Oscars
Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £10 - £14
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

NewGrass Cutters
Fri at 8pm, £15
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Julian Lloyd Webber Presents
Tue at 7.30pm, £22.50
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

The Ukulele Orchestra
Sun at 3pm, £19.50
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Lunchtime Organ Concert
Mon at 1pm, £6
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Dvorák's Cello Concerto
Wed at 2.30pm, £6.50 - £21.50
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Hélène Grimaud in Recital
Thu at 7.30pm, £9.50 - £35
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

Dirty Dancing
Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £20 - £55
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Sing-a-Long-a Frozen
Sat at 11.30am, 3pm,
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

An Evening with Pam Ayres
Thu at 7.30pm, £23 - £23.75
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Fashionably Late by Ginny Davis
Sat at 7.30pm, £10 - £14
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Sun at 7.30pm, £10 - £14
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

Ghost
Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, £15.50 - £21.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Pygmalion
Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, £9.50 - £12
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

Oh What A Lovely War
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm, £13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Births, Deaths & Marriages
Mon at 7pm, £4 - £6
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP.
Call 0121 236 4455

Sister Act
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £15 - £18
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR. Call 01543 412121

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Sat, Wed at 2.30pm, £15.50 - £53.40
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Sister Act
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £15 - £18
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

The Long Road
Sat at 7.45pm, Sun at 2.45pm, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.45pm, £6 - £11
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
Call 0121 643 5858

Chewing The Fat
Thu at 8pm, £9 - £15
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

The Printmakers
Sat at 8pm, £10 - £12
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE. Call 01902 321321

Birmingham Cabaret Festival
Thu at 8pm, £10
The Old Joint Stock, Birmingham, B2 5NY.
Call 0121 200 1892

COMEDY

Andy Parsons Live and Unleashed
Sat at 8pm, £15 - £15.75
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Paul Foot
Sat at 7pm, £13.50 - £13.75
The Slade Rooms, Wolverhampton, WV1 1HP.
Call 01902 552106

Jack Dee's Help Desk
Wed at 6.45pm, £18.50
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Henning Wehn
Thu at 7.30pm, £14.50 - £16.75
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE. Call 01527 65203

OTHER EVENTS

Haden Hill House Anniversary
Sun at 2pm - 5.30pm,
Haden Hill House Museum, Cradley Heath, B64 7JU.
Call 01384 569444

The Sooty Show presents
Sat, Sun at 9.30am - 4pm, £11.95 - £16.25
Cadbury World, Bournville, Birmingham, B30 2LU.
Call 0844 880 7667

Guy Day's: Hints & Tips
Tue, Wed at 11am, £23
Weston Park, Weston-under-Lizard, Shifnal, TF11 8LE. Call 01952 852100

Evening Scenic Specials
Sat at 7pm, £8 - £13
Severn Valley Railway, Kidderminster, DY10 1QR.
Call 01299 403816

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Take That relish their threedom

Everything Changes — Take That soar over the heads of their fans in a spectacular concert, picture by Andrew Whitton

AND then there were three... the new trio version of Take That promise a spectacular series of shows at the Genting Arena, starting on Monday.

Gary Barlow, Mark Owen and Howard Donald will play a total of seven concerts at the mega venue near Birmingham, also including Tuesday, Thursday, next Friday and Saturday, before returning on June 22 and 23.

Take That are the UK's most successful live act ever.

They have had eight number one albums, 15 number one singles, sold over 30 million albums, won six Ivor Novello awards, eight BRITs and sold over seven million concert tickets.

Minus Jason Orange and Robbie Williams, the band have returned with aptly-titled new album III and the hit These Days. They are embarking on a 24-date tour, four years after their record-breaking Progress Live wowed their fans.

It will be worth turning up in time to catch support act, the BRIT-nominated Ella Henderson, who hit the number one spot with her debut album Chapter One and had hits with the singles Ghost and Glow.

Thea haunted by her songs

IT will surely one day be a Trivial Pursuit question: Name the UK artist who first hit the top 40 with her 14th album? It was Thea Gilmore with her 2013 release Regardless.

Thea's slow burning career has seen her garner more and more fans since she first emerged as an 18-year-old with her debut Burning Dorothy.

Now, 17 years on, album number 15 Ghosts & Graffiti is a compilation of four new songs, alongside six newly-recorded versions of previous favourites and her recent run of radio hits.

The album features collaborations with fantasy writer Neil Gaiman, cult New York singer-songwriter Joan As Policewoman (Joan Wasser), folk-rockers The Waterboys, folk legend Joan Baez, punk poet John Cooper Clarke, Scottish singer-songwriter King Creosote (Kenny Anderson) and acclaimed Mancunian band I Am Kloot.

In General Election year, she also nails her political beliefs to the mast with My Voice, performed with Billy Bragg.

Thea, who starts her UK tour at Birmingham Town Hall on Saturday, said: "I didn't set out to make so many albums. There was no master plan, I just had things to say so I found a way to say them.

Now I see every record as a snapshot of that particular time in my life. It's like a haunting, the songs are the ghosts of my past."

Tickets cost £24.50 with fees. For further details see the www.thsh.co.uk website.

Little Voice will be heard again at Rep

TWO of Britain's favourite soap actors are in a new production of Jim Cartwright's popular play The Rise And Fall Of Little Voice, at Birmingham Repertory Theatre from May 15 to 30.

The Olivier award-winning play about the shy but hugely talented Little Voice stars Coronation Street's Vicky Entwistle and Chris Gascoyne, who played Janice Battersby and Peter Barlow. In the demanding role of LV is Nancy Sullivan from the West End production of Les Miserables. Vicky Entwistle plays her blowsy mum and Chris Gascoyne is agent Ray Say, who wants to cash in on LV's impersonations of such divas as Judy Garland and Shirley Bassey.

Ray patched up to play new date

AMERICAN soft rock specialists Dr Hook, featuring iconic eyepatch wearing frontman Ray Sawyer, return to live work following Ray's accident that postponed the band's March Hooked on Hits tour. The 78-year-old broke his arm in a fall

One of the rescheduled shows includes the Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton, on Thursday, May 14. The now solo Dennis Locorriere was the main vocalist for most of the band's hits, but Ray Sawyer —who lost an eye in a car accident in 1967 — also contributed vocals, most memorably on Cover Of The Rolling Stone. Expect to hear all the hits, including Sylvia's Mother.

Cabaret festival at pub theatre

BIRMINGHAM'S first cabaret festival is going to take place during the second half of May.

The Old Joint Stock theatre pub at Temple Row West in the city centre is the venue for acts ranging from comedy to circus via music, drag and burlesque.

It kicks off with Edinburgh Fringe hit Boris and Sergey's Vaudevillian Adventure, an adults only puppet show, on May 15. Other highlights will inlcude gentleman juggler Matt Ricardo on May 16, Mr B The Gentleman Rhymer on May 22 and The Weatherman by Kiki Lovechild on May 27. For full line up see www.oldjointstock.co.uk website.

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

Silk Roots restaurant and the Old Mitre Inn, on Bursnips Road, Essington

Larger parties are catered for among the 160 covers

The restaurant is also set out to allow privacy for its diners

One of the eatery's delicious offerings

There are 10 combination dishes to choose from

Silk appeal firmly rooted in word of mouth on this handy eatery

By Mark Shipp

INDIAN restaurant proprietors will tell you they rely on word of mouth to attract custom. It's a policy that is working very well for Nazrul Islam.

He has a loyal fanbase, having built up a reputation at Balti Nights in Willenhall, and these customers have helped spread the word since the move to the Old Mitre pub just under a year ago.

Located along Bursnips Road, Essington, on the main stretch of the A462, the eatery could not be more ideally placed for passing trade and is perfect for diners travelling from the Wolverhampton, Bloxwich, Walsall and Cannock areas.

A back-to-back winner of the best Midlands restaurant title while at Balti Nights, Nazrul has more than 15 years experience in the restaurant trade and is keen on helping out good causes, too, with around £40,000 raised over the years for children's charities and Acorns Hospice.

"We worked hard for 15 years or so, so when we came here, a lot of people followed us," said Nazrul. "I am honoured by the support shown by customers."

After buying the premises from Enterprise Inns, Nazrul quickly set about transforming it into Silk Roots and around 90 people turned out for its opening. The Old Mitre still stands, however, and serves traditional pub fare. In fact, Nazrul is keen to bring back its glory days.

"The Old Mitre had a good reputation and we want to bring that back," he said.

Tastefully decorated, Silk Roots caters for 160 diners, with corporate bookings and private parties accepted. Parking is plentiful, with spaces across the road in addition to the restaurant's own car park.

The restaurant can be accessed via the pub, and diners can sit with a drink while waiting for a table. Pub lunches are also served.

Appetite

My partner and I ventured on a midweek night and after a drink to whet the appetite, poppadums were the order of the day. This led to a novelty for me, as, while these came with the traditional dips, it is usually assumed one knows what these are. Here, staff took the time to explain what all these dips were – a pleasant, personal touch that only added to the experience.

A mixed starter was dished up for us next, with lamb chops, kebabs and bhajis, which, while tasty, only served to fill us up before the mains arrived. We gave them a good go, though, and again there was an extensive offering. My own choice was Combination Number 9, or chicken mital and chikken tikka malay to give it its proper name. The medium dishes complemented each other well, while my partner's option was the chicken passanda, creamy and served with ground almonds and pistachios.

The beauty is, with the starters included, the meals alone would amount to just £20, so despite a bulging waistline, there's not a big dent left in the bank balance.

Alas, there was no room to choose from the dessert list that included apple pie and chocolate fudge cake.

In the run-up to the restaurant's first anniversary, diners can enjoy four courses from the a la carte menu for £9.95 on a Sunday and a Monday. There is a takeaway and delivery service. To book, call 01922 276900 or visit www.silkrootsrestaurant.co.uk

Dine & Drink @ Red Leaf World Buffet

Taking the multi cuisine dining experience to the next level by creating a multi-cultural and multi-dimensional restaurant right in the heart of West Bromwich.

The Red Leaf World Buffet on High Street West Bromwich is a perfect venue for business lunches, wedding celebrations, social gathering, cooperate dinner or birthday parties. Everything that you can think of is just under one roof.

Since opening in 2014, Red Leaf has gone from strength to strength with an emphasis on food quality and an ever-changing variety of cuisines including Caribbean, Chinese, Indian, Italian, Mexican and Thai dishes. On an average a day, there are over 150 freshly cooked and replenished dishes to choose from, including a broad variety of the vegetarian choices.

As well as the food bars and counters, an open kitchen island features a number of chefs (also from across the world). Customers can ask for a particular dish to be prepared instantly to add to their buffet choice. Regular choices of Indian Naan bread and Dosa pancake, Chinese Stir fry and Grilled dishes are often supplemented by other speciality delicacies.

Weekend Specials

On busy weekends (from Friday), the number of dishes are increased, including an extended seafood and salad bars, Weekend specials such as Paella and Sushi plus traditional English roast on Sundays. There is also more for kids with free face painting on Saturday's lunchtime & a resident clown on Sundays all day. There is a free parking too.

This multi-cultural restaurant offers a broad variety of delicious dishes from across the world in one comfortable 200 seat space.

Special events are one of the key features at Red Leaf. They have just had a great success during Punjabi Food Festival in April. There were

many authentic dishes added to the regular buffet choices over 10 days during the festival, using locally sourced Meat, Poultry and Vegetables from the local suppliers & from the local farms.

A fixed price (varies across the week) includes as much as one can manage from the entire restaurant, from starters, sides, salads, mains and desserts. The drinks, also carries a broad range of beverages: soft drinks, teas and coffees, cocktails, mocktails & smoothies, wines and champagnes, beers, spirits and liqueurs.

Briefly, Red Leaf is a place where an exciting variety of freshly replenished and instantly cooked dishes are available at an affordable price in an open space of warm hospitality and more legroom than most other buffet restaurants.

Special offers are also part of the Red Leaf relationship, so it's a good idea to stay informed via Twitter and Facebook to save a few quid on a regular basis.

For more information, please visit www.redleafworldbuffet.co.uk

CHOICE

Katherine Jenkins

VE Day 70: A Party to Remember
BBC1, 8.30pm
Chris Evans hosts a live concert from Horse Guards Parade in London as part of the national celebrations for the 70th anniversary of VE Day. Among those taking the stage are Alfie Boe, Elaine Paige, Chas and Dave, Collabro, Gregory Porter and Katherine Jenkins, performing songs that reflect the mood of the nation at the time. Other singers, some of who are backed by a live big band, are Alexander Armstrong, Jamelia, Pixie Lott and Rebecca Ferguson, plus Status Quo. There are dance tributes from Diversity and the Strictly professionals, and readings from actors including Adrian Lester, Bernard Cribbins, Ian Lavender, Jane Horrocks, Julia Sawalha, Laurence Fox and Nigel Havers.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **12.50** Saturday Sportsday. **1.00** Live Athletics: Great CityGames Manchester. Coverage of the seventh staging of the event. **3.00** Final Score. **5.10** Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix Qualifying – Highlights.

6.20 BBC News.

6.35 Regional Programme.

6.45 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present the general knowledge quiz. Celebrity teams Henry Kelly and Matthew Kelly, Tom O'Connor and Jenny Powell, Nina Myskow and Gyles Brandreth and Ulrika Jonsson and Nick Hancock try to come up with the least likely correct answers to a series of questions posed to members of the public.

7.35 Atlantis. When Jason is caught by Pasiphae's troops, the heroes know they must do all they can to save him before he is lost for ever, so Aeson undertakes a mission to rescue his son.

8.20 The National Lottery Live. Jenni Falconer introduces the results of this week's draws, with Madness frontman Suggs on hand to press the button and release the balls.

8.30 VE Day 70: A Party to Remember. Chris Evans hosts a live concert from Horse Guards Parade in London as part of the national celebrations for the 70th anniversary of VE Day. Among those taking the stage are Alfie Boe, Elaine Paige, Chas and Dave, Collabro, Gregory Porter and Katherine Jenkins, performing songs that reflect the mood of the nation at the time. Other singers, some of who are backed by a live big band, are Alexander Armstrong, Jamelia, Pixie Lott and Rebecca Ferguson, plus Status Quo. There are dance tributes from Diversity and the Strictly professionals.

10.25 BBC News; Weather.

10.45 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, including Crystal Palace v Manchester United at Selhurst Park and Hull City v Burnley at the KC Stadium; National Lottery Update.

12.10 Film: DOA. (1988) **1.45** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.50** BBC News.

BBC2

6.10 Film: The Story of GI Joe. (1945) **8.00** How We Won the War. (R) **8.30** How We Won the War. (R) **9.00** The Lancaster: Britain's Flying Past. (R) **10.00** Wellington Bomber. (R) **11.00** Churchill: The Nation's Farewell. (R) **12.00** Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.30** Escape to the Country. (R) **2.15** Hitchcock's Leading Actors: Talking Pictures. **2.50 Film:** Vertigo. (1958) Hitchcock thriller, starring James Stewart. **4.55** Flog It! (R) **5.25** Newsnight Special. **5.55** Gardeners' World. (R)

6.25 Dad's Army. Last-ever episode of the wartime comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. Last in the series. (R)

7.00 BBC Young Dancer 2015. Zoe Ball and Darcey Bussell present the grand final of the talent search from Sadler's Wells. Six dancers have made it through to the last show, and each will perform a solo piece from their repertoire, a duet and a new piece devised for them by some of the UK's leading choreographers. The judging panel is made up of leading directors and choreographers Matthew Bourne, Mavin Khoo, Wayne McGregor, Tamara Rojo, Kenrick Sandy and Alistair Spalding. Last in the series.

9.00 Some People with Jokes. Members of the public who are 60 years of age and over tell their favourite gags to the camera. (R)

9.15 Film: Salmon Fishing in the Yemen. (2011) A British fisheries expert is recruited by an Arab sheik, who believes the sport of salmon fishing can enrich the lives of his people – if only there were fish to catch. The scientist is soon undertaking an ambitious scheme to introduce salmon to the desert, and finds his own government have an interest in the project. Comedy drama based on Paul Torday's novel, with Ewan McGregor, Emily Blunt and Kristin Scott Thomas.

10.55 QI XL. Stephen Fry hosts an extended edition of the quiz with a difference, with Josh Widdicombe, Phill Jupitus, Katherine Ryan and Alan Davies answering questions on the topic of K-Folk. (R)

11.40 Film: The Way. (2010) Comedy drama, starring Martin Sheen, Deborah Kara Unger and James Nesbitt.

1.45 This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Super 4. (R) **7.45** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.40** Doc Martin. (R) **2.45** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **3.45 Film:** Cats & Dogs. (2001) Comedy, starring Jeff Goldblum. **5.30** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Reloaded. Harry Hill narrates a comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers in this special extended episode.

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. Competitors from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shephard, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. Those who make it to the end of the adrenaline-fuelled mission face one final task – scaling the heights of a tower named Mount Midoriyama – as they battle it out for the title of Ninja Warrior UK.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec host the latest round of the nationwide talent search. A wide variety of acts, from comedians to contortionists, singers to spoon players, compete to impress judging panel Simon Cowell, Alesha Dixon, Amanda Holden and David Walliams with their unusual skills – with a huge cash prize and a coveted slot at the Royal Variety Performance up for grabs at the end of the series.

9.15 Play to the Whistle. Former Wimbledon champion Pat Cash, comedian Bob Mortimer and Emmerdale star Natalie Anderson join team captains Frank Lampard and Bradley Walsh on the comedy sports quiz.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Film: American Gangster. (2007) Fact-based crime drama about 1970s drug kingpin Frank Lucas and the cop who tried to bring him down in the face of police corruption. Starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe.

1.00 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** Challenge Wanaka. **7.30** The Grid. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** Frasier. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.25** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Ascot, Lingfield Park and Haydock Park. **4.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.10** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.45** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.10 The Simpsons. A terrorism scare prompts the people of Springfield to hire a British security consultant, who installs surveillance cameras everywhere. (R)

6.35 Channel 4 News.

7.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead turn their attention to the 1980s "hot hatch" – city run-a-rounds, such as the Volkswagen Golf GTi and Peugeot 205, which became must-haves for boy racers. They help transform a Golf GTi Mk 1 into a rally car and meet hatchback fanatics to discover why people are so passionate about these vehicles and how, for some, they defined an era. (R)

8.00 The World's Most Extreme. An exploration of the most dangerous rivers on the planet, including the Panama Canal and the Congo River, where white-water rafters try to beat undefeated rapids.

9.00 Film: Robin Hood. (2010) An archer fighting in Richard the Lionheart's crusading army returns home to England and assumes the identity of a nobleman killed in battle. His new-found status draws him into a dangerous conflict with members of the newly crowned King John's court, and a traitorous knight plots to aid the French in conquering England. Ridley Scott's medieval adventure, starring Russell Crowe.

11.45 Lee Mack Live. The comedian's live show, performed at London's Bloomsbury Theatre, in which he touches on bizarre subjects, from pasty marketing to grandmothers snorting a powdered dessert. (R)

12.50 Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **1.45** Hollyoaks. (R) **3.50** Sarah Beeny's Selling Houses. (R) **4.45** Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R) **5.00** Deal or No Deal. (R) **5.55** How I Met Your Mother. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.45** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **11.45** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **12.45 Film:** Attack on the Iron Coast. (1968) **2.35 Film:** Columbo: A Trace of Murder. (1997) **4.30** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.30** Britain's Horror Homes. (R)

6.25 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred's first case sees them in a Brighton health spa as they search for assets to seize in pursuit of a £20,000 debt. Following a stand-off, they devise a way to work with the owner and her professional advisers to come up with a solution. Later, Graham reveals his softer side when he revisits a woman who defaulted on a debt payment plan. (R)

7.25 5 News Weekend.

7.30 NCIS. Kidnappers strike on Halloween, wounding a marine sergeant and snatching his daughter – leaving the team members wondering why anyone would try to extort money from someone on such a modest salary. As the agents begin searching for a motive, Abby surprises everyone by turning up at the lab in a revealing fancy-dress costume. (R)

8.25 NCIS. The team joins forces with military investigators to ascertain whether terrorists were responsible for an explosion at a golf course in which a marine colonel was killed. (R)

9.15 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A body is found in the woods, covered in chrome paint. A shard of glass leads Sara and Julie to two rich brothers, who are fighting over their father's collection of classic cars.

10.10 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A criminal performing community service is suspected of murdering two people – but even after he is caught, the killings continue. (R)

11.05 The NCIS Movie: Judgement Day. The funeral of a special agent in Los Angeles leads Shepard on a covert mission to finish some classified business she began a decade previously in Europe. (R)

12.55 SuperCasino. **3.10** Autopsy: The Last Hours of River Phoenix. (R) **4.00** World's Busiest Hotel. (R) **4.50** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.05** Don't Tell the Bride **9.05** Live at the Apollo **9.35** Happy Valley **10.35** Family Guy **12.45** Murder in Successville **1.15** Nick Helm's Heavy Entertainment **1.45** Live at the Apollo **2.15** Don't Tell the Bride **3.15** Tatau **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **8.00** Wild China **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** Country at the BBC **12.15** Neil Diamond: Radio 2 Electric Prom **1.20** Wild China **2.20** Top of the Pops: 1980 **3.00** Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **4.00** Close

ITV2
11.00 Britain's Got Talent **12.20** Britain's Got More Talent **1.20** Celebrity Catchphrase **2.20 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **4.10** Mr Bean **5.15 Film:** The Smurfs (2011) **7.20 Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **9.15** Britain's Got More Talent **10.20** Celebrity Juice **11.05** Britain's Got Talent **12.20** Britain's Got More Talent **1.20** Hell's Kitchen **2.05** Crazy Beaches **2.30** Life's Funniest Moments **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
11.10 Film: Carry On Screaming (1966) **1.10 Film:** The Mirror Crack'd (1980) **3.20** Wycliffe **4.25 Film:** Columbo: A Stitch in Crime (1973) **6.00** Lewis **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War **11.05** Inspector Morse **1.20** Wire in the Blood **2.15** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4
11.00 Live FIA Formula E Championship. The Monte Carlo ePrix qualifying session. **12.15** Pawn Stars **1.05** Counting Cars **2.00** Live FIA Formula E Championship. The Monte Carlo ePrix. **4.30** British Superbike Championship Highlights **5.35** Pawn Stars **6.00** Storage Wars: Texas **7.00** Shed and Buried **8.00 Film:** Goldfinger (1964) **10.20 Film:** Basic (2003) **12.25 Film:** Age of Heroes (2011) **2.20** Whisker Wars **2.45** Movies Now **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
11.30 The Goldbergs **1.00** How I Met Your Mother **2.00 Film:** St Trinian's (2007) **4.00** Made in Chelsea **5.00** Jane the Virgin **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Limitless (2011) **11.05** The Big Bang Theory **1.30** Rude Tube: Animal Madness **2.30** Channel 4's Comedy Gala 2013 **3.15** 2 Broke Girls **3.40** How I Met Your Mother **4.25** Make It or Break It

Film4
11.00 Fixed Bayonets! (1951) **1.00** Bride Wars (2009) **2.45** Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (2011) **4.30** Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992) **6.50** Congo (1995) **9.00** Priest (2011) **10.45** Scary Movie 2 (2001) **12.20** Underworld: Rise of the Lycans (2009) **2.05** Flirting with Disaster (1996) **4.00** Close

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, May 7, 2015

CHOICE

Alexander Armstrong

Sunday Night at the Palladium
ITV, 8pm
Actor, comedian and singer Alexander Armstrong hosts the variety show from the West End theatre, introducing music by violinist Andre Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, and two of America's hottest singing talents – All About That Bass star Meghan Trainor and Josh Groban, whose classical-style voice has helped him shift more than 25 million albums. There's also comedy from Lee Nelson and Rod Woodward, hot moves from Ethiopian acrobatics AAC Boys and dancers Quest Crew, and an energetic performance from the cast of West End musical The Commitments.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** VE Day 70: The Nation Remembers. **1.30** Sunday Politics. **2.45** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.15** Shark. (R) **4.15** Points of View. **4.30** Songs of Praise. **5.05** Formula 1: Spanish Grand Prix – Highlights.
6.30 BBC News.
6.50 Regional Programme.
7.00 Countryfile. Adam Henson is at the Food and Farming Awards in Bristol, where he announces the winner of the first Countryfile Farming Hero and also talks about his own hero, Robert Bakewell, the father of selective breeding. The rest of the team celebrates other farming pioneers past and present, including tractor inventor Harry Ferguson, the men who set up the RSPCA and a man whose efforts gave farmers a voice and helped feed the nation when it was needed the most. With Matt Baker, Ellie Harrison, Anita Rani and Tom Heap.
8.00 The British Academy Television Awards. Graham Norton hosts the annual ceremony celebrating the best of British TV, held at the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane in London. Shows battling for recognition include Happy Valley, Line of Duty, The Missing and Marvellous, which all have three nominations each, while the entertainment performance category sees Graham himself competing against Ant and Dec, Claudia Winkleman for Strictly and Leigh Francis – better known as alter ego Keith Lemon – for Celebrity Juice. Channel 4 News anchor Jon Snow will be awarded the Bafta Fellowship, celebrating more than 40 years in journalism and broadcasting.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Chelsea v Liverpool at Stamford Bridge and Manchester City v Queens Park Rangers at the Etihad Stadium.
11.30 Film: The Mothman Prophecies. (2002) A journalist investigates reports of encounters with a moth-like creature that his wife claimed to see before she died. Thriller, with Richard Gere.
1.20 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.25** BBC News.

BBC2

6.05 Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **7.00** Countryfile. (R) **8.00** Gardeners' World. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Athletics: Great Manchester Run. Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.05** MOTD2 Extra. **2.00** Equestrian: Badminton Horse Trials. **4.00** The Olympic Journey: Born Winners. Gabby Logan investigates whether a person's DNA decides if they will be a winner. **4.30** Athletics: Great Manchester Run Highlights. **5.30** Flog It! (R)
6.00 VE Day 70: The Nation Remembers – Highlights. Today's events to commemorate the 70th anniversary of VE Day, beginning with a service of thanksgiving at Westminster Abbey, followed by a parade of veterans and a fly-past.
7.00 Britain's Greatest Generation. The extraordinary stories of some of the British men and women who fought or lived through the Second World War, now in their nineties or older. (R)
8.00 Hunters of the South Seas. Will Millard heads to the Trobriand Islands, 150 miles off the east coast of Papua New Guinea, where he discovers a trading network called the Kula Ring. Last in the series.
9.00 Wellington: The Iron Duke Unmasked. First in a two-part portrait of the Duke of Wellington, with Richard E Grant starring in a series of dramatic reconstructions aiming to discover the man behind the public image.
10.00 Modern Times: For Richer For Poorer. Every year, half-a-million new businesses are launched in Britain and 40 per cent of them will be run by couples. Cameras follow four of these brave, enterprising twosomes.
11.00 W1A. Anna is crowned as the Head of Better, and the staff are given the task of announcing the concept to the world at large – which is fine, except none of them know what Better means. (R)
11.30 Film: Smart People. (2008) A misanthropic professor's self-absorption threatens his faltering relationship with a former student. Comedy drama, starring Dennis Quaid, Ellen Page and Thomas Haden Church.
1.00 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R) **1.55** Holby City. (R) **2.55** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. **6.25** Pat & Stan. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **10.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **11.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** The Unforgettable Hattie Jacques. (R) **1.05** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **1.50** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **3.05 Film:** Mannequin. (1987) Fantasy comedy, starring Andrew McCarthy. **4.50** The Chase. (R) **5.50** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)
6.50 Regional Programme; Weather.
7.00 ITV News; Weather.
7.15 Celebrity Squares. Noughts-and-crosses game show, with guests Jonathan Ross, Laura Whitmore, Tony Law, Gabby Logan, Nina Conti, Union J and Shappi Khorsandi. Warwick Davis hosts.
8.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium. Actor, comedian and singer Alexander Armstrong hosts the variety show from the West End theatre, introducing music by violinist Andre Rieu and his Johann Strauss Orchestra, and two of America's hottest singing talents – All About That Bass star Meghan Trainor and Josh Groban, whose classical-style voice has helped him shift more than 25 million albums. There's also comedy from Lee Nelson and Rod Woodward, hot moves from Ethiopian acrobatics AAC Boys and dancers Quest Crew, and an energetic performance from the cast of West End musical The Commitments.
9.00 Home Fires. Drama about a wartime Women's Institute group. As Frances and Joyce battle for leadership, Pat struggles with her unhappy marriage and Miriam tries to stop David enlisting.
10.00 ITV News; Weather.
10.35 Perspectives: In Charlie Chaplin's Footsteps. Monty Python star Terry Jones, a long-time fan of silent comedy, offers a personal appraisal of the man who arguably changed the face of film comedy in the 1920s.
11.35 Premiership Rugby Union.
12.30 The Store. **2.30** Motorsport UK. **3.20** British Superbike Championship Highlights. **4.10** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** British GT. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.35** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.30 Film:** Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Rodrick Rules. (2011) Children's comedy, with Zachary Gordon. **5.30** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away.
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Three in a Bed. At the Maypole Inn Pub and B&B in Skipton, North Yorkshire, former Butlins stand-up comic Malcolm Kilbourne and his wife Sue don't believe in unnecessary frills. Their rivals are perfectionists Ianroy and Melanie McCall of the luxury Wootton Park estate in Warwickshire, and retired Navy Wren Mary Lloyd-Wright and her stepdaughter Cherry Priscott, who own Hooks Cottage in the Dartmoor countryside. The week of competitive hosting features unwelcome surprises beneath the sheets, fancy bottles of water and a stand-off between guests and wildlife.
8.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead enter the world of micro cars, driving a 1960 Messerschmitt, 1960s bubble cars and the ill-fated Sinclair C5, as well as restoring a Fiat 500.
9.00 Film: Prometheus. (2012) Premiere. A spacecraft is sent to another world, following clues left in ancient artefacts, in search of aliens that may have created the human race. However, the explorers on board discover the extraterrestrials may not be the benevolent creatures they imagined, while the company funding the expedition has its own agenda. Ridley Scott's sci-fi thriller and Alien prequel, starring Noomi Rapace, Michael Fassbender, Charlize Theron and Idris Elba.
11.25 Film: Piranha 3DD. (2012) The opening of a water park is turned into a massacre when man-eating fish start feasting on the visitors. Comedy horror, starring Danielle Panabaker and Matt Bush.
1.00 24 Hours in A&E. (R) **1.55 Film:** Naalu Pennungal. (2007) **3.40** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.50** Deal or No Deal. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Mio Mao. (R) **7.00** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.15** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.10** Zack and Quack. (R) **8.25** Toby's Travelling Circus. **8.35** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.00** LazyTown. (R) **9.25** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **9.30** Dora and Friends. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Chinese Food in Minutes. (R) **10.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **11.50** Police Interceptors. (R) **12.45** Police Interceptors. (R) **1.45 Film:** National Security. (2003) Action comedy, starring Martin Lawrence and Steve Zahn. **3.25 Film:** Big Momma's House. (2000) Comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. **5.15** 5 News Weekend. **5.20 Film:** Spider-Man 3. (2007) An alien parasite causes the web-slinging crimefighter's dark side to surface as he seeks revenge on his uncle's killer. Superhero sequel, with Tobey Maguire and Kirsten Dunst.
8.00 Film: Grown Ups. (2010) Five friends reunite for the funeral of their high-school basketball coach. However, when they discover they have all acquired the problems and responsibilities that come with adulthood, they decide to spend a weekend at a lake house in a bid to recapture their childhood. Comedy, with Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Kevin James, David Spade and Rob Schneider.
10.00 Film: Safe. (2012) A former cage fighter protects a 12-year-old girl holding valuable information that several criminal factions want. Action thriller, starring Jason Statham and Catherine Chan.
11.45 Film: Soldiers of Fortune. (2012) Premiere. A group of wealthy thrill-seekers pay big bucks to experience a military-style mission. Action adventure, starring Christian Slater.
1.35 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. The observational documentary returns, this time giving an insight into the work of doctors at Putneymead Group Medical Practice in Putney, south-west London. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth **7.10** Top Gear **7.55 Film:** Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides (2011) **10.00** Tatau **11.25** Family Guy **12.10** Murder in Successville **12.40** American Dad! **1.00** Family Guy **1.25** Russell Howard's Good News **1.50** Murder in Successville **2.20** In Deep **2.40** Tatau **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Secrets of the Universe: Great Scientists in Their Own Words **8.00** Horizon: Who's Afraid of a Big Black Hole? **9.00** Horizon: 40 Years on the Moon **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Explosions: How We Shook the World **11.30** The Joy of the Guitar Riff **12.30** Great Guitar Riffs at the BBC **1.30** BBC Young Dancer 2015 **2.30** The Sky at Night **3.00** Horizon: Who's Afraid of a Big Black Hole? **4.00** Close

ITV2
12.15 Take Me Out **1.45** Meghan Trainor: The Hot Desk **2.00 Film:** Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco (1996) **3.45 Film:** Richie Rich (1994) **5.40** Britain's Got Talent **7.00** Britain's Got More Talent **8.00** You've Been Framed! Best of the Best **9.00 Film:** The Dark Knight (2008) **12.05 Film:** American Pie Presents Band Camp (2005) **1.55** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3
12.00 Film: Columbo: A Stitch in Crime (1973) **1.30** Lewis **3.35** Wycliffe **4.45** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.45** Inspector Morse **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety **10.00** Wycliffe **11.10 Film:** Hamlet (1990) **1.50** Secret Smile **3.05** Judge Judy **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
11.00 Live British Touring Car Championship. Round three from Thruxton. **6.30** BRDC Formula 4 Championship Highlights **7.30** Pawn Stars **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** National Lampoon's European Vacation (1985) **11.05 Film:** Bowfinger (1999) **1.00** River Monsters **2.00** Hell on Wheels **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

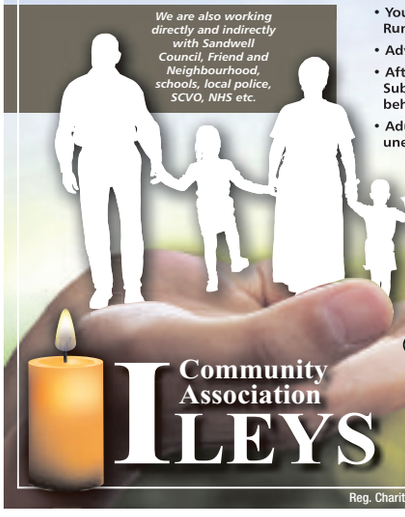
E4
12.00 Made in Chelsea **1.00** Revenge **2.00** Jane the Virgin **3.00** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Maid in Manhattan (2002) **10.05** The Big Bang Theory **11.10 Film:** Jennifer's Body (2009) **1.15** Virtually Famous **2.00** Rude Tube: Ultimate Champions **2.55** Rules of Engagement **3.45** Hollyoaks

Film4
11.00 At the Earth's Core (1976) **1.00** Journey to the Center of the Earth (2008) **2.50** Rio (2011) **4.40** City of Ember (2008) **6.30** Runaway Jury (2003) **9.00** The Inbetweeners Movie (2011) **10.55** Killing Them Softly (2012) **12.50** A Civil Action (1998) **3.15** Close

HERE TO SERVE OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Ileys is a not for profit organisation that provides the children, youth and families of black minority ethnic origin fo Smethwick and surrounding areas with a full range of human services, from advice to leisure. We deal with such critical issues as homelessness, substance abuse, delinquency, racism, extremism, delayed education and unemployment.

Ileys is presently made up of six programs that serve the varied needs of the community, including:



- Youth activities: Weekend sports and recreational activities. Running workshops on drug awareness sessions.
- Advice Program: drop-in advice and information service
- After-school club: tuition, Arabic and Somali language. Substance Awareness program: drug and anti social behaviour awareness for youth ages 18 and younger
- Adult Skills Development: Train-to-work program for unemployed. ESOL and language courses
- Family Health and Fitness: Complete community sports experience which is affordable and available for all interested participants, women (FGM)
- Inter-community cohesion: Networking and cross community communication program whose sole purpose is understanding other communities better.

Community Association ILEYS

Victoria Park Skill Centre
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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Death Sentence, Channel 5, 10.55pm
Mild-mannered executive Nick Hume's perfect, peaceful life is destroyed when his oldest son is killed by a street gang. Hume becomes determined to see those responsible pay for their crimes, gaining the sympathy and support of a homicide detective working on the case. However, she begins to question her position as Hume's methods of retribution become increasingly violent. Thriller, starring Kevin Bacon, Kelly Preston and Garrett Hedlund. (2007)

WEDNESDAY
Margin Call, BBC1, 11.15pm
A bitter executive is dismissed from an investment bank, but plans his revenge by handing secret information on the company's fortunes to a junior analyst. When the information is decoded, it reveals that the company is on the brink of a devastating financial crisis, a revelation that is soon spreading throughout the workforce. Drama, starring Kevin Spacey, Paul Bettany and Jeremy Irons. (2011)

Cape Fear, Friday, ITV, 10.40pm

FRIDAY
Cape Fear, ITV, 10.40pm
A psychopathic rapist is released from prison after 14 years and plots revenge on the defence attorney he blames for his imprisonment. Subjecting the lawyer and his family to a terrifying campaign of intimidation, he uses his knowledge of the law to stay untouchable. Martin Scorsese's thriller remake, starring Robert De Niro, Nick Nolte and Jessica Lange. (1991)

I Love You, Man, BBC1, 11.50pm
As he prepares for his wedding, estate agent Peter realises there is something missing – a male friend, which he doesn't have, to be his best man. His quest for a suitable candidate leads him to laid-back, hard-drinking Sydney and the pair become inseparable buddies – to the horror of Peter's fiancee. Comedy, starring Paul Rudd and Jason Segel. (2009)

(500) Days of Summer, Channel 4, 12.25am
A man looks back on his 500-day-long relationship with the woman he loves, remembering events in a random order. Romantic comedy, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt and Zooey Deschanel. (2009)

Honouring the best in British television

Can the TV Baftas outshine their cinematic counterpart? Well, one man adding a little movie glamour to the proceedings is Benedict Cumberbatch, who is now a force to be reckoned with in Hollywood following his Oscar nomination for playing Alan Turing in The Imitation Game.

He's since received his third Leading Actor Bafta nod (and sixth in total) for the role that first gained him international recognition – that of enigmatic super-detective Holmes in Sherlock, the modern reworking of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous tales.

He's up against James Nesbitt for The Missing, and two extraordinary performances as real-life people from Toby Jones and Jason Watkins. Watkins was outstanding in The Lost Honour of Christopher Jeffries, but the winner should be Jones, whose take on clown and football mascot Neil Baldwin in Marvellous was arguably the TV highlight of 2014.

The Leading Actress category will be very hotly contested, with first-time nominee Georgina Campbell in the running for surprise hit Murdered by My Boyfriend, alongside Keeley Hawes for Line of Duty.

But then the big guns come out. Sheridan Smith has been hotly tipped for her performance in Cilla, which was great – until you realise she didn't look or sound like Cilla Black, the person she was playing.

So, if there's any justice, it will be Sarah Lancashire who wins for her career-best turn in Happy Valley, which would also be her second win in as many years – in 2014 she took home the Supporting Actress trophy for her work in Last Tango in Halifax.

Other luminaries in the running include the ceremony's host, Graham Norton, for his BBC chat show, as well as Matt Berry (Toast of London), Hugh Bonneville (W1A), Claudia Winkleman (Strictly Come Dancing) and Stephen Rea (The Honourable Woman).

Watch out too for Olivia Colman, who is nominated for the fourth consecutive year, this time in the Female Performance in a Comedy Programme for Rev.

We do, however, already know the identity of one winner. The name 'Jon Snow' may now be synonymous with a Game of Thrones character, but the real Jon Snow, ie the Channel 4 newsreader who has spent the past 40 years covering globally important stories, will receive the Bafta Fellowship.

This grand award has previously been handed to the likes of Julie Walters, Michael Palin and David Attenborough, so Snow is in great company.

"I am genuinely overwhelmed by the honour of being awarded a Bafta Fellowship," says Snow. "There is no greater recognition than that of one's own industry.

"I thought at first Bafta must have the wrong Snow… There are several of my cousins they could have chosen. I'm genuinely looking forward to the ceremony. I think my daughters have concluded I've finally done something cool!"

Expect tears and laughter throughout the night as British TV's great and good give each other a good old pat on the back, but try not to get too upset if your personal favourite goes home empty handed.

The British Academy Television Awards, Sunday, BBC1, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
Episodes
BBC2, 10pm
Showtime's TV-industry satire returns for a fourth season, and with their hopes of a new life overseas now on the back burner, Sean (Stephen Mangan) and Beverly (Tamsin Greig) are dragged back to Hollywood to make six more episodes of the previously cancelled Pucks. 'It's risen, like Jesus. If Jesus was a sitcom that no one watched,' says the show's leading actress Morning Randolph (Mircea Monroe). Meanwhile, Matt (Matt LeBlanc) attends a funeral and discovers that the deceased – the man who looked after his money – had been scamming him for years, to the tune of 32 million dollars, no less. Finally, Carol (Kathleen Rose Perkins) lobbies to run the network after discovering the identity of her new boss.

TUESDAY
Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch
Channel 5, 9pm
It's back – and it's going to be a blast. As if sharing a house with a group of complete strangers, all with very ëbig' personalities, wasn't tricky enough, this year we're promised that the reality show is going to be extra mischievous, as the contestants place their past, present and future in Big Brother's hands. In fact, BB is going to start to playing with the very concept of time itself – and not just by making viewers think they'll just tune in for a few minutes to check out the latest intake, only to later realise they've been gripped for two hours. Emma Willis takes charge this evening, as she introduces us to Big Brother's class of 2015, and also lets us have a good look around the house, which has had a Mad Men-inspired 1960s makeover.

WEDNESDAY
Inspector George Gently
BBC1, 8pm
Last week, Gently investigated a case that looked like suicide, but turned out to be murder. This week, he does the same thing again although, thankfully, the circumstances are very different. This time, the body is that of Scott Parker, who is found lying on a rubbish pile under the Tyne Bridge, shortly after celebrating his 40th birthday with his best friends Petey and Michael. All Scott had on him was a pawn broker note, a betting slip and the number for Gwendolyn Howard. It turns out he had been pawning items under a false name and was in serious debt – but who is Gwendolyn, and does she hold the key to the mystery? Watch out for a guest appearance by Jim Moir, aka Vic Reeves.

Big Brother: Timebomb Live Launch, Tuesday, Channel 5, 9pm

The World's Most Expensive Food
Channel 4, 8pm
Like many cities, London is a place of opposites. There are poverty-stricken estates peppered across its expanse, but there are also areas of great wealth too. In fact, it's been estimated that the capital is now home to more billionaires than any other city on the planet. These mega-rich folk may live the kind of lifestyles the rest of us can only dream about, we all have at least one thing in common with them – the need to eat. But what do those with untold millions enjoy? We're guessing that nipping down to their local supermarket isn't on their daily agenda. This two-part programme aims to lift the lid on their habits, as well as offering an insight into the catering companies trying to keep up with their changing appetites.

THURSDAY
Fraud Squad
ITV, 9pm
The documentary series exploring the work of detectives from the City of London Police unit concludes with an insight into an operation to shut down a large-scale bank-cheque fraud empire. Run by a Zimbabwean gang, the scheme involved counterfeiting cheques from thousands of people, government institutions, small businesses, and even a hospice in Scotland. The criminals used an army of 'mules' to cash their fake cheques for a small commission. Funds were then being transferred to Zimbabwe in the form of luxury cars, by a ringleader who viewed his crimes as payback for his native country's colonial grievances against the UK.

FRIDAY
Mary Berry's Absolute Favourites
BBC2, 8pm
New series. The veteran cook shares a selection of her favourite recipes, each inspired by a favourite place. In the first programme, she draws her inspiration from childhood trips to the seaside, preparing goats cheese and shallot tarts with an innovative walnut pastry, considered ideal for a picnic hamper. She moves on to a family favourite – royal crab and cod fishcakes with tomato salsa.

2015 DAY TRIPS

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MAY
Blackpool
Sat 9th Sat 16th Sat 23rd
Mon 25th Sat 30th
Weston-Super-Mare
Mon 25th May
Waterworld (Stoke)
Sat 9th May
Severn Valley Railway 50th Anniversary "Peppa Pig and Daddy Pig"
Sun 10th May
Haworth 1940s Weekend
Sat 16th
Alton Towers
Sun 17th
Liverpool Docks
Tues 26th
Chester or Chester Zoo
Weds 27th

JUNE
Blackpool
Sat 6th Sat 13th
Sat 20th Sat 27th
Rhyl
Sat 6th Sat 20th Sat 27th
Weston-Super-Mare
Sat 27th
Clarks Village Outlet
Sat 13th

JULY
Blackpool
Sat 4th Sat 11th
Sat 18th Sat 25th
Cheshire Oak (Shopper)
Sat 4th
Kent Bluewater Centre
Sat 11th
Barmouth, Wales
Sat 18th
Southport
Thu 23rd
Rhyl or Llandudno
Sat 25th
Southend On Sea
Mon 27th
Cotswold - Bourton On The Water
Mon 27th
Chester or Chester Zoo
Weds 29th
Great Yarmouth
Weds 29th
Cheddar Gorge
Thurs 30th
Windsor Castle
Fri 31st
Stoke-Trentham Monkey Forest-Waterworld
Fri 31st

AUGUST
Blackpool
Sat 1st Weds 5th
Sat 15th Sun 16th
Sat 22nd
Sat 29th Mon 31st
Lake Windermere
Sat 1st
Bournemouth
Mon 3rd
Drayton Manor
Mon 3rd
Twycross Zoo
Weds 5th
Weston Super Mare
Thurs 6th Mon 10th
Weds 19th Mon 31st
Bath
Thurs 6th
Barry Island
Mon 10th
Barmouth
Weds 12th
Chester or Chester Zoo
Disneyland Paris
Fri 14th - Sun 16th
Sat 15th
Severn Valley Railway 50th Anniversary Sounds of the 60s
Sat 15th
Brighton
Sun 16th
Warner Bros. Studio
Tour
Mon 17th
Leicester Space Centre
Mon 17th
Cotswolds
Tues 18th
Weymouth Carnival
Weds 19th
London Short Tour and Buckingham Palace
Fri 21st
Rhyl
Sat 22nd
Sat 29th
Margate
Mon 24th
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Tues 25th
Legoland/ Windsor Castle
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Thurs 27th
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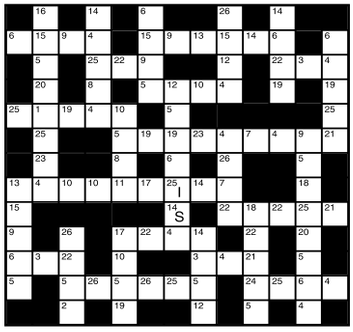


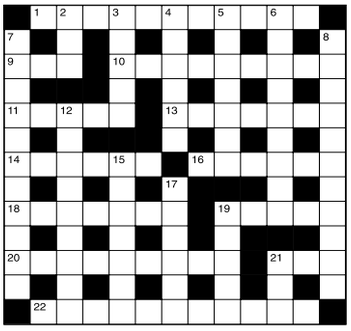
1	14 S
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25 I
13	26

SOLUTIONS TO NO. 322:

1 M	2 S	3 G	4 H	5 T	6 O	7 D	8 N	9 X	10 R	11 A	12 K	13 L
14 U	15 Z	16 C	17 J	18 V	19 Y	20 W	21 I	22 P	23 B	24 F	25 Q	26 E

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Not in top form? (6-5)
9. Also the last of 20 (3)
10. Capital charges are inappropriate here (5-4)
11. Took measured steps, perhaps (5)
13. Sleep it off when letter comes (7)
14. Very small amount of time (6)
16. Worse than Cinderella's sisters? (6)
18. Steeped as far down as possible (7)
19. Sounds a tiny thing, but the power's there! (5)
20. Inferior worker is sly (9)
21. Nothing indicated as the end-product also (3)
22. There are no factors in production of the best anaesthetic, apparently (5,6)

Down

2. The last of 12 (3)
3. Took steps to ease friction.... (5)
4. ....and we'd begun to appear.... (6)
5. ....having fun, like the early-rising bird (7)
6. Begin with fish - it's breath-taking (9)
7. Successful spiritualist avoids extremes (5,6)
8. Piercing a rotten pine (11)
12. Study offer made by competitor (9)
15. It is to be proved that article needs more changes (7)
17. This melody takes considerable effort (6)
19. She is absolutely crazy before noon! (5)
21. Where part of the foot points? (3)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Dogmatic (11)
9. Encountered (3)
10. Looker-on (9)
11. Adorn (5)
13. Watch (7)
14. Grand (6)
16. Small flag (6)
18. Abhors (7)
19. Evade (5)
20. Uprising (9)
21. A fuel (3)
22. Eternal (5-6)

Down

2. Place (3)
3. Disagreeable (5)
4. Fairy king (6)
5. Performer (7)
6. Installed as bishop (9)
7. Diplomats (11)
8. Unceremonious (4,3,4)
12. Respectable (9)
15. Determine (7)
17. Desire (6)
19. Ate dinner (5)
21. Fire-arm (3)

Sudoku

			3		1			9
		3		9		8		
	6			8	2		7	
		4						2
3	9		7		4		6	8
8					3	1		
	2	7	8	5			9	3
		6		3		7		
5			1					

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	3	1	9	2	5	6	8	4
8	5	6	7	3	4	9	2	1
2	9	4	6	8	1	5	3	7
1	7	5	8	9	3	2	4	6
3	2	9	4	5	6	1	7	8
6	4	8	1	7	2	3	9	5
4	6	3	2	1	8	7	5	9
9	8	2	5	6	7	4	1	3
5	1	7	3	4	9	8	6	2

No. 322 CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Bizarre; 7 Forms; 9 First; 10 Cabinet; 12 Information; 14 Saintliness; 18 Flogged; 19 Brief; 21 Quits; 22 Goliath. Down: 1 Rigid; 2 Pass on; 3 Err; 4 Soviet; 5 Emperor; 8 Raiment; 11 Coalmen; 13 Fall out; 15 Nights; 16 Sortie; 17 Delta; 20 Hoe. QUICK - Across: 6 Recount; 7 Quote; 9 Haste; 10 Retinue; 12 Fraudulence; 14 Hairdresser; 18 Proceed; 19 Comic; 21 Scorn; 22 Fraught. Down: 1 Delay; 2 Poster; 3 Ink; 4 Futile; 5 Staunch; 8 Request; 11 Quarrel; 13 Caprice; 15 Record; 16 Exodus; 17 Right; 20 Art.

Thinking space

Solutions to 317:

Quiz: 1 Alexander Fleming; 2 Scotland; 3 Mad Dog; 4 Patricia Highsmith; 5 Buzzard; 6 Ghana; 7 Alberto Tomba; 8 Graham Greene; 9 River Medway; 10 Gustav Mahler.

Niner: LIFEBOATS

Crossword: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Route; 8 Tangles; 9 Affront; 10 Lagos; 12 High street; 15 Treble clef; 18 Louis; 19 Optical; 21 Anemone; 22 Plumb. Down: 1 Ornamental; 2 Ruffs; 3 Nero; 4 Stitch; 5 Unclothe; 6 Flagged; 11 Set of clubs; 13 Illusion; 14 Refuses; 16 Crowed; 17 Scout; 20 Type. QUICK - Across: 7 Canon; 8 Torrent; 9 October; 10 Sweet; 12 Asseverate; 15 Accentuate; 18 Tress; 19 Kindred; 21 Unclean; 22 Adieu. Down: 1 Accountant; 2 Unite; 3 Knob; 4 Starve; 5 Prospect; 6 General; 11 Tremendous; 13 Sinister; 14 Screech; 16 Unkind; 17 Train; 20 Neat.

Codeword: 1=R, 2=W, 3=H, 4=I, 5=E, 6=D, 7=V, 8=G, 9=K, 10=P. 11=T, 12=X, 13=Y, 14=M, 15=O, 16=C, 17=Q, 18=F, 19=N, 20=A, 21=B, 22=U, 23=Z, 24=L, 25=J, 26=S.

Sudoku:

7	9	6	3	5	4	2	8	1
1	3	2	7	9	8	6	4	5
4	5	8	1	2	6	7	9	3
6	4	3	8	1	5	9	2	7
5	7	1	2	6	9	4	3	8
2	8	9	4	7	3	1	5	6
3	1	5	9	4	7	8	6	2
8	2	4	6	3	1	5	7	9
9	6	7	5	8	2	3	1	4

Quiz

1. In Greek mythology who was the sister and wife of Zeus?
2. When did Queen Victoria succeed to the throne?
3. Jomo Kenyatta was prime minister of which country?
4. Who wrote the opera Fidelio?
5. How many gills are in one pint?
6. In which American state is Fort Knox?
7. Which element has the symbol A?
8. Who wrote the Palliser novels?
9. What was the first James Bond film?
10. Which Shakespeare play features the character Polonius?

Solutions to no. 322:

Quiz: 1 Cosa Nostra; 2 Thomas Gray; 3 Richard Wagner; 4 Delaware; 5 Harold Macmillan; 6 Augustus; 7 14th; 8 Balaclava; 9 A Study in Scarlet; 10 Double bass.

Niner: FORESIGHT

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

145 gives a rodent,
3678 gives a wild animal,
9243 gives an aquatic mammal.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Express & Star *Shop*

EASY STEAM WINDOW CLEANER

JUST £29.99 WAS £79.99 SAVE £50

Ideal for leaving glass and other reflective surfaces spotless, this window steamer takes all the hard work out of cleaning. The powerful 1300W device creates steam that enables you to clean windows at a much faster rate than ordinary window cleaners. It boasts a detachable water tank with a capacity of 300ml and requires no chemicals or detergents to remove dirt, kill bacteria and completely disinfect windows. Its lightweight and compact design and safe, sturdy handle makes it easy to use and the combination of the rubber wiper, microfibre cloth and buffing mitt will ensure a streak-free finish. The steamer takes just four minutes to heat up ready for use. Dimensions: L34 x W28 x H14cm.

EASY STEAM MOP

JUST £29.99 WAS £79.99 SAVE £50

Use the power of steam to clean and disinfect your home without resorting to harmful detergents. This mop heats up instantly and eliminates dust mites, bacteria and grime.

Featuring a clever triangular mop head and swivel joint to allow it to reach into corners and other tight spaces, the mop has a 1300W motor that generates temperatures of 90°- 100°C. Suitable for all heat-resistant floors, including hardwood, tiles and stone, the mop comes apart for easy storage. A glider attachment is included for use on carpets. Two handy microfibre cloths are also included.

MAXI VAC

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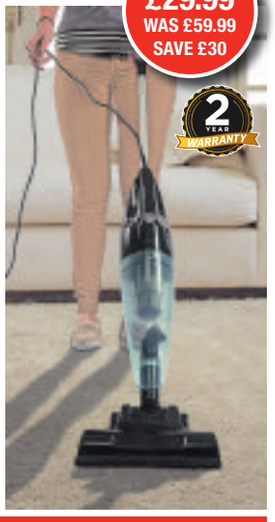
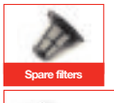
The all-new Maxi Vac really cleans up where others fail. Weighing less than a quarter of the weight of the UK's leading upright vacuum cleaner, the lightweight Maxi Vac delivers the power to clean up. Using the latest bagless technology, the 600W motor delivers direct suction all of the time.

At a little over 3lbs, it's so easy to use and converts from an upright to a hand-held vacuum in seconds. Ideal for those who struggle with a larger vacuum cleaner or those with limited storage space, Maxi Vac makes light work of cleaning stairs, upholstery, curtains and carpets.





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Pack of Three Spare Mop Heads	D6431		£9.99	
Maxi Vac - Black	D7335		£29.99	
Accessory Pack	D4103		£6.99	
Spare Filters	D7828		£4.99	
			Please add £3.95 P&P	£3.95
			TOTAL	

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Lake Como, St Moritz and the Bernina Express

Pick of the week

Eight days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £819

Explore one of the most beautiful lakes in the world, plus some stunning sights of northern Italy and Switzerland.

The delights of Lake Como are many and varied. One of the highlights will be a private boat trip and tour of the beautiful 18th century Villa del Balbianello, one of the finest villas surrounding the lake. This is followed by a visit to the exclusive resort of Bellagio, often described as the most beautiful town in Italy.

Enjoy a contrasting day of spectacular scenery and Swiss engineering. Firstly ascend to Tirano to board the Bernina Express, one of the slowest express trains in the world, travelling to the summit at Ospizio Bernina before descending to the chic resort of St Moritz, where there is time for a spot of window shopping or to explore at leisure.

A guided tour of the old town is included at Bergamo in northern Italy. Centred around the Piazza Vecchia, it's main square is a wonderful collection of medieval and Renaissance buildings and the cobbled streets are lined with a wealth of traditional shops.

Nearby Lake Maggiore's most attractive lakeside town Stresa is visited. Take a stroll along its impressive palm-lined promenade and enjoy the lovely views across the lake to the Borromean islands.

The town of Lugano in Switzerland is also a delight to explore. It's centred around the cafe-lined main square – ideal for people watching. Alternatively stroll around the twisting lanes of the old town or network of shops.

INFO

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation
- Single journey on the Bernina Express
- Lake cruise to Bellagio
- Guided tour of Bergamo
- Entrance and guided tour of Villa del Balbianello
- Visits to Lake Maggiore, St Moritz and Lugano
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Three days departing August 14

PRICE FROM £169

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
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- Cruise on the Leeds Liverpool Canal
- Coach tour of the Yorkshire Dales
- Visits to Holmfirth, Skipton, Grassington and Haworth
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

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Isle of Wight and Osborne House

Four days departing August 28

PRICE FROM £269

- Return coach travel and ferry crossings
- Three nights half-board accommodation
- Entrance to Osborne House
- Visits to Ryde, Godshill, Yarmouth and The Needles Park at Alum Bay
- Tour and wine tasting at the Rosemary Vineyard
- Entrance to Ventnor Botanic Gardens and a cream tea
- Free time in Cowes
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Norfolk Gardens and The Lavender Harvest

Three days departing July 3

PRICE FROM £219

- Return coach travel
- Two nights half-board accommodation
- Norfolk Lavender Caley Mill grounds tour followed by a cream tea and lavender scones
- Visit to the Lavender Oil Distillery
- Entrance to Sandringham House and Gardens
- Entrance to Bressingham Gardens
- Visit to Cambridge
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Elvis Exhibition at The O2 London

Two days departing August 22

PRICE FROM £115

- Return coach travel
- Overnight half-board accommodation
- Ticket to the Elvis exhibition at the O2
- Free time in central London
- Visit to Greenwich
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Saturday Night Theatre by rail

Two days departures most weekends

PRICE FROM £159.95

- Return standard class rail travel to London (upgrade offered)
- Overnight bed and breakfast accommodation at a choice of four-star London hotels
- Ticket for the Saturday evening performance of a West End show of your choice
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Please note the "from" price and price bands vary for each show
Organised by Omega Events (ABTA Y590X)

London Summer Days

Five days departing August 17

PRICE FROM £399.95

- Return coach travel
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation at the four-star Tower Guoman hotel
- Excursion to Windsor
- Optional excursion to Hampton Court Palace and Richmond
- Free time in London
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Omega Holidays (ABTA V4782)

Jersey

Four to eight days
Departures June to December

PRICE FROM £295

- Return flights
- Bed and breakfast accommodation at the three-star Mayfair or Metropole hotel in St Helier
- Option to upgrade to half-board for a supplement
- Return airport to hotel transfers in Jersey
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Modern Hotels (ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752)

Buckingham Palace

Day trip departing August 9 and Sept 13

PRICE FROM £59

- Return coach travel
- Entrance to Buckingham Palace

Two and four-day trips to Buckingham Palace are also available

Organised by Diamond Holidays (ABTA W0552)

Normandy by Eurostar

Five days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £499

- Return standard class seat on Eurostar
- Return rail connection to London
- Four nights bed and breakfast accommodation
- Guided walking tour of Rouen
- Visits to the Bayeux Tapestry, Benedictine Palace and the port of Honfleur
- Visit to Arromanches and the second World War D-Day beaches
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Certain entrance fees payable locally
Organised by RivieraTravel (ABTA V4744)

Sicily

Eight days various departure dates

PRICE FROM £939

- Return flights
- Seven nights half-board accommodation in four-star hotels
- Guided tours of Valley of the Temples, Piazza Armerina and Monreale's medieval cathedral
- Visits to Palermo, Taormina, Mount Etna and Siracusa
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

Organised by Riviera Travel (ABTA V4744, ATOL 3430)

Iceland
Reykjavík and the Northern Lights

Four days various departure dates
November 2015 to March 2016

PRICE FROM £549

- Return flights
- Three nights bed and breakfast accommodation in a choice of hotels
- City tour of Reykjavík
- Search for the Northern Lights tour*
- Optional excursions offered
- Services of a tour manager
- Single rooms subject to availability - supplement applies

**Please note the Northern Lights are a natural phenomenon and sightings cannot be guaranteed*
Organised by Newmarket Holidays (ABTA V7812, ATOL 2325)

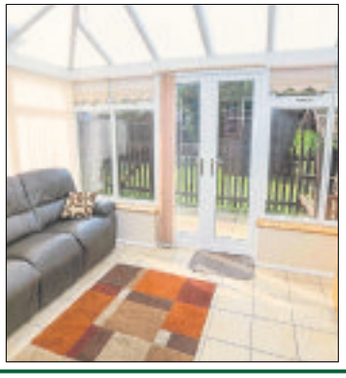
Extended five-bed semi is ideal for commuting

A STUNNING and extensively extended five-bedroomed semi-detached house in Blackbrook Way, Wolverhampton is ideally positioned for commuting.

It is for sale through Reeds Rains at £210,000 with no chain.

It has a lounge with a bow window and gas fireplace with a stone-effect hearth, dining room with patio doors into a conservatory with ceramic tiled flooring, kitchen with space for a range cooker with extractor unit over, an integrated dishwasher and fridge, part-tiled walls and ceramic tiled flooring, a utility room, WC, five bedrooms (master bedroom with fitted wardrobes), bathroom, rear garden with lawn and a patio area and a garage (storage only).

Call 01902 428888 or visit www.reedsrains.co.uk



Two-bed home for sale with no chain

THIS two-bedroomed property in Tiffany Lane, Pendeford, Wolverhampton is for sale through Sanders Wright & Freeman at £135,000 with no chain.

It has a spacious through living/dining room with a feature fireplace and patio door, kitchen with tiled flooring, ground floor bedroom/sitting room, master bedroom with an en suite, bathroom with a white suite, towel rail and tiled walls and a low maintenance garden.

For further details call 01902 575555 or visit www.swfestateagents.co.uk

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NEW

WEST BROMWICH

LEE STREET

Detached family residence in need of updating and improvement. Porch, entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, lobby, rear verandah, three bedrooms, bathroom. Side extension creating a living area, kitchen area, downstairs shower room, central heating, double glazing. Garage and off road parking. Front and rear gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating E

Offers in the region of £159,950

OLDBURY

TITFORD ROAD

An opportunity to aquire a mixed Residential and Commercial premises comprising of detached family residence known as 'Providence Cottage' together with yard, detached stores/offices and a garage workshop currently trading as B&A Autos Motor Engineer. Residential property has three reception rooms, three bedrooms, utility/storage, kitchen, bathroom, outside W.C., central heating, double glazing. EPC Rating E

Offers in the region of £375,000

SMETHWICK

VICTORIA PARK ROAD

A modern semi detached property comprising hall entrance W.C. off, 2 reception rooms, kitchen.Stairs to six bedrooms on two floors, house bathrom and shower room, central heating, double glazing, off road parking, garage to side, front and rear gardens. EPC Rating C

Offers in the region of £214,950

OLDBURY

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

Traditional semi-detached family residence in need of general updating and decoration. Reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, lobby, downstairs toilet, side verandah, three bedrooms, bathroom, boarded loft, central heating, double glazing, garage and parking, garden to rear. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £199,950

TIVIDALE

TAYLOR WAY

Detached family residence comprising porch, entrance hall, dining room, cloakroom, kitchen, lounge, utility, three double bedrooms, ensuite shower, bathroom. storeroom, central heating, double glazing, block paved driveway and established private rear garden. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £189,950

ROWLEY REGIS

SIDAWAY CLOSE

An extended, improved and well presented modern detached house comprising entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, understairs store cupboard, master bedroom with dressing area and ensuite shower, two bedrooms and family bathroom. Central heating, double glazing, garage, utility, block paved driveway and established private rear garden. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £189,950

OLDBURY

SANDFIELDS ROAD

Detached family residence in need of general updating. Porch, entrance hall, utility room, through lounge/dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, shower room. Established gardens, outside toilet, off road parking and detached garage at rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £165,000

TIVIDALE

REGENT ROAD

A traditional semi-detached house improved in recent years. Porch, entrance hall, through lounge/dining room, "L" shaped kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom. Block paved driveway and private rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £129,950

WEST BROMWICH

LIVINGSTONE ROAD

An opportunity to acquire a modern end town house situated within a poplar sought after development. The accommodation comprises lounge/dining room, kitchen, stairs to two bedrooms, and bathroom. Central heating and double glazing, rear garden and parking for two vehicles. EPC Rating C

Offers in the region of £104,950

WEST BROMWICH

JOWETTS LANE

Semi-detached house occupying a corner location offering scope for extension subject to planning. In need of minor updating. Porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, verandah, two bedrooms, shower room, central heating, part double-glazing,off road parking and gardens. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £104,950

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ROWLEY REGIS

DURHAM ROAD

A modern terraced house situated within a popular development Entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, central heating and double glazing, front and rear gardens, allocated parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating D

Price: £79,950

REDUCED

OLDBURY

BARKER STREET

Terraced house in need of only slight improvement being an ideal first time purchase or investment opportunity. Through lounge/dining room, kitchen, bathroom, three bedrooms, central heating & double glazing. Garden at rear. EPC Rating D

Price: £76,950

OLDBURY

THE PINEWAYS

Deceptively spacious ground floor flat offering an ideal investment opportunity or first time purchase comprising lounge, store cupboard, kitchen, hallway, airing cupboard, bathroom, two bedrooms. Central heating and double glazing, private rear garden and residents parking. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £74,950

OLDBURY

LANGLEY MEDE, CROSSWELLS ROAD

Ground floor flat offering spacious accommodation and situated in a convenient location an ideal first time purchase or investment opportunity, we are pleased to offer this . Entrance hall, kitchen, lounge, two bedrooms, airing cupboard, bathroom. Gardens to front and side. Rear parking. EPC Rating D

Offers in the region of £64,950

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Fine Edwardian home was built for the mayor

AN Edwardian gentlemen's residence, Eastwood Lodge, 45 Comberton Road, Kidderminster is understood to have been built around 1906 for the then Mayor of Kidderminster.

Many original features have survived intact. It would now benefit from some sympathetic updating. It is for sale through Allan Morris Estate Agents at £395,000. It has five bedrooms, bathroom, living room, dining room, breakfast room, kitchen, utility, conservatory and a tandem garage part converted into a games room.

fishergerman.co.uk

FISHER GERMAN

Forge Farm, West Bromwich, West Midlands

Farmhouse and range of traditional buildings with development potential

- Period farmhouse in need of renovation
- Range of traditional farm buildings with potential for residential development (subject to planning permission)
- Extending to approximately 1.478 acres
- Semi rural location close to Sandwell Valley Country Park
- Excellent road and rail links
- EPC rating G

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OLDBURY, Birchley Park Avenue

A spacious, well presented, 4 BEDROOMED DETACHED property occupying a pleasant position, requiring internal inspection, having gas radiator heating, majority double glazing and comprising :- Entrance hall (with wc off), delightful lounge, dining/sitting room, fitted breakfast kitchen (with integral oven/hob), utility, 4 bedrooms (master with en-suite), bathroom, driveway, garage and pleasant rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC D. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

Offers in the Region Of £234,950

OLDBURY, Warwick Road

An EXTREMELY SPACIOUS, well presented, 3 bedroomed extended semi detached property in a pleasant cul-de-sac position, with gas radiator heating, double glazing and comprising :- Porch, entrance hall, delightful through lounge/ dining area, study (with wc off), fitted kitchen (having oven/hob), 3 EXCELLENT DOUBLE BEDROOMS, super bathroom and separate shower, and pleasant rear garden with distant views. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC D. BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers in the Region Of £192,500

BARTLEY GREEN, Napton Grove

A delightfully presented, considerably improved, 3 bedroomed semi detached property occupying in a pleasant cul-de-sac, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance hall, delightful lounge, super re-fitted kitchen (with integral oven/hob), spacious conservatory, superb re-fitted bathroom, 3 bedrooms, off road parking for several vehicles and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC D. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

Offers in the Region Of £137,500

WARLEY WOODS AREA, OLDBURY, Harborne Road

A rare opportunity to acquire a well presented 2 bedroomed bungalow occupying a pleasant position within this popular neighbourhood, most convenient for Warley Woods/Golf Course, having double glazing and comprising :- Entrance hall, delightful lounge, fitted kitchen, side passage, 2 bedrooms, attractive bathroom, off road parking for several vehicles and pleasant rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC G. BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers in the Region Of £215,000

OLDBURY, Bristam Close

Delightful, spacious, modern 3 BEDROOMED semi detached occupying a pleasant cul-de-sac position, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and comprising :- Entrance vestibule, delightful lounge, super re-fitted dining kitchen (with range of integral appliances), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking, and pleasant good sized rear garden. must be viewed. EPC D. BEARWOOD OFFICE

Offers around £159,950

OLDBURY, Pinkney Place

A delightfully presented, thoughtfully improved 3 bedroomed semi detached property, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance vestibule, delightful lounge, super re-fitted dining kitchen (with integral oven/hob), garden room/utility (having downstairs w.c off), 3 bedrooms, bathroom, shared drive, GARAGE and good sized rear garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC D. BEARWOOD OFFICE

New price Was £149,500 Now £148,000

OLDBURY, Sycamore Road

A chance to acquire an attractive, 3 bedroomed traditional style semi detached property occupying a pleasant cul-de-sac position, convenient for local shopping facilities, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Entrance vestibule, attractive lounge, dining room, kitchen, 3 bedrooms, bathroom, off road parking and pleasant rear garden. must be viewed. epc E. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

New price Was £119,950 Now £114,950

OLDBURY, Wolverhampton

A well presented, deceptively spacious, 2 bedroomed intermediate family home, convenientl for local amenities, having gas radiator heating, double glazing and briefly comprising :- Porch, entrance hall (with downstairs w.c off), attractive lounge, re-fitted kitchen (having integral oven/hob), 2 double bedrooms, re-fitted shower room, separate w.c, and pleasant rear garden. NO UPWARD CHAIN. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC rating C. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

Offers in the Region Of £106,950

SMETHWICK, Milton Court

A well presented 2 bedroomed flat occupying a pleasant position within this retirement complex, convenient for local shopping facilities, approached via a communal entrance and briefly comprising :- Entrance hall (with intercom receiver), delightful lounge, attractive kitchen, 2 bedrooms, bathroom, communal garden, residents lounge and communal parking area. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC C. BEARWOOD OFFICE.

New price Was £64,950 Now £62,450

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Goodchilds FOR SALE

Goodchilds
Estate Agents & Lettings

Doulton Road, Rowley Regis
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Double Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Downstairs W.C.
- Living Room

OIRO £219,950

Brookfield Way, Tipton
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- AMPLY OFF ROAD PARKING
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- FOUR BEDROOMS
- REAR GARDEN
- OFFICE AREA

OIRO £187,500

Hollies Drive, Wednesbury
- Three Story
- Traditional Semi-detached house
- Entrance Hallway
- Three Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Five Bedrooms
- Fitted Bathroom
- Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £185,000

Rough Hay Road, Wednesbury
- EXTENDED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- THREE STORYS
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- KITCHEN/BREAKFAST BAR
- CONSERVATORY
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C

£179,950

Aster Way, Walsall
- Detached Property
- Three Bedroom
- Off road parking
- Integrated garage
- Kitchen
- Living Room

OIRO £174,995

Pitchwood Close, Wednesbury
- Terraced Property
- NO UPWARD CHAIN!
- Three Story
- Three Bedrooms
- Family bathroom
- Kitchen/Diner

OIRO £140,000

Hall Street East, Wednesbury
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- TWO BATHROOMS
- KITCHEN
- LOUNGE
- LOUNGE/DINER

£130,000

Old Park Road, Wednesbury
- Terraced
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £124,995

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Romulus Close, Birmingham
- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Large Lounge/Diner
- Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Off Road Parking

Guide Price £124,950

Tame Street, West Bromwich
- Mid Terrace House
- Two Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- Downstairs WC
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Private Parking

Offers in excess of £120,000

Wills Avenue, West Bromwich
- END TERRACED PROPERTY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- ONE RECEPTION ROOM
- GARAGE
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS W.C.

£120,000

Sheldon Avenue, Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms
- End Terrace
- Fully Refurbished
- Low Maintenance Garden
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Lounge

OIRO £119,950

Coneygree Road, Tipton
- SEMI DETACHED
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- THREEE BEDROOMS
- RE STYLED KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
- FRONT GARDEN

Offers in Excess of £110,000

Salter Road, Tipton
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOM
- KITCHEN/DINER
- MODERN FITTED BATHROOM
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- REAR GARDEN

Offers in Excess of £105,000

Howard Street, Tipton
- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Spacious Lounge
- Shower Room
- Re-Styled Kitchen
- Large Side Entrance Porch

£99,995

Toll End Road, Tipton
- Terraced Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden

OIRO £99,950

Garrington Street, Wednesbury
- Terraced house
- Darlaston area
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge
- Dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- Three bedrooms
- Family bathroom

OIRO £95,000

Thunderbolt Way, Tipton
- Second Floor
- Entrance Hallway
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen

OIRO £94,950

Queen Street, Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £90,000

Moxley Road, Wednesbury
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- DINER
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN

£89,950

Damson Wharf, Tipton
- Three Bedroom Three Storey
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC & Family Bathroom
- Will Bring £560 PCM
- Double Glazing and Gas Central Heating
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- One Sold, Two Left!

Offers in Excess of £88,000

Holyhead Road, Wednesbury
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- ENSUITE
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN

OIRO £87,950

Westbury Road, Wednesbury
- Semi-detached
- Entrance hallway
- Lounge
- Fitted kitchen
- Downstairs W.C
- Family bathroom

Offers in Excess of £79,995

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Knowles Street, Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms Detached
- Large Rear Garden
- Garage Conversion
- Downstairs WC
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £650

Kilburn Road, Birmingham
- Three Bedrooms
- Kitchen with Appliances
- Off Road Parking
- Large Rear Garden
- No Pets
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £600

Bull Lane, West Bromwich
- Four Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Down Stairs W.C.
- Off Road parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £600

Jasmine Way, Wednesbury
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Integral Garage
- Two Reception Rooms
- Utility and Downstairs WC
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £600

Woden Road North, Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached House
- Located Near A School
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Rear Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £600

Westminster Road, Birmingham
- TWO BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- PRIVATE REAR GARDEN
- MODERN THROUGHOUT
- FULLY FITTED MODERN KITCHEN
- UPSTAIRS BATHROOM

Monthly Rental Of £575

Coleraine Road, Birmingham
- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Conservatory
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS Accepted

Monthly Rental Of £575

Rough Road, Birmingham
- Three Bedroom Mid Terrace House
- Gas Central heating
- Double Glazing
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extended Kitchen
- DHSS Considered

Monthly Rental Of £595

Asquith Drive, Oldbury
- Two Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Patio Doors To Garden
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £575

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THE SUNDAY TIMES
THE TIMES

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Walcot Drive, Birmingham
- Entrance Hallway
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen / Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £525

Wesley Grove, Wednesbury
- Three bedroom Semi detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central heating
- Front and Rear gardens
- Recently Refurbished
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Carden Close, West Bromwich
- Two Bedroom Mid Terraced
- Large Rear Garden
- Front And Rear Access
- Fitted Kitchen
- Double Glazing
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Bromford Lane, West Bromwich
- Studio Apartment
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- All Bills included (Except Council Tax)
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £400

King Street, Bilston
- Two Bedroomed Upper Floor Flat
- Spacious Throughout
- Modern Kitchen and Bathrooms
- Popular Location
- DHSS Considered
- Call Today!

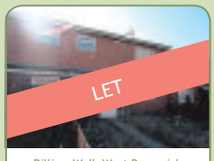
Monthly Rental Of £375

The Parade, Dudley
- Studio Apartment
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- All Bills included (Except Council Tax)
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £350

Surrey Road, Birmingham
- Three Bedrooms Terraced House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Down Stairs Bathroom
- DHSS CONSIDERED

Monthly Rental Of £575

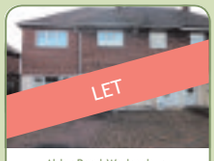


Dilliars Walk, West Bromwich
- Four Bedroom Terraced House
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking To The Rear
- Conservatory
- DHSS CONSIDERED

Monthly Rental Of £575

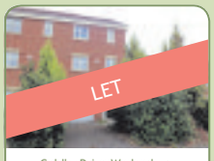
Memory Lane, Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Located in the Victoria Mews Estate
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £550



Alder Road, Wednesbury
- FOUR Bedrooms
- Semi-Detached House
- Cul-De-Sac Location
- Extensive Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £550



Goldby Drive, Wednesbury
- Three Bedrooms
- Guest W/C
- Master with En-Suite
- Off Road Parking
- Garage
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £550

Moxley Road, West Midlands
- Three Bedroom Semi detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £495

Booth Street, Wednesbury
- Two Bedroom Terraced House
- Gated Rear Parking
- Front off road Parking
- Gas Central heating
- Double Glazing
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £495

Handley Street, West Midlands
- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Kitchen/Dinner
- Large Garden
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Bedford Street, Tipton
- Two Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Allocated Parking
- Fully Fitted kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Orchard Rise, Wednesbury
- Two Bedrooms Ground Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Brand New
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Vauxhall Road, Birmingham
- ONE BEDROOM FLAT
- GROUND FLOOR
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- BATHROOM
- KITCHEN

Monthly Rental Of £450

Oberon Grove, Wednesbury
- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Fully Furnished
- Allocated Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £450

Warren Close, Tipton
- Two Bedroom Maisonete
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Street Parking
- Fully Furnished
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £395

Manifold Way, Wednesbury
- One Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Allocated Parking
- Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £375

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Mock Tudor 5-beds near to Arboretum

A UNIQUE five-bedroomed mock Tudor detached family residence in Broadway North, Walsall lies in a highly sought after area.

It is for sale through Fraser Wood at £385,000.

Ideal for commuting and positioned opposite Walsall Arboretum and with gas central heating and double glazing it has a through lounge with an inglenook fireplace with a log burner and French doors out to the garden and a leaded bay window, dining room with a briquette fireplace, ceiling beams and wooden flooring, kitchen with a seating area, Belfast sink, dishwasher and tiled flooring.

The landing has a beamed ceiling an there are five bedrooms, (two with a beamed ceilings and one with an en suite shower room), luxury bathroom, gardens, driveway and a garage.

Contact Fraser Wood on 01922 627686 or visit the website at www.fraser-wood.co.uk

Detached in nice location

A MOST attractive and well-presented four-bedroomed detached home, 141 High Park Crescent, Sedgley lies in a delightful location.

It is for sale through Rodens at £279,950.

This stunning home has been extended to create excellent family living accommodation. It has double glazing, gas central heating, reception hall, lounge with a fireplace and open access to a sitting room and a dining area overlooking the rear garden, dining kitchen and contrasting working surfaces plus integrated appliances and a utility room,. There are four bedrooms ,bathroom,

For details call 01902 881188 or visit www.rodenestates.com

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NEW

33 WIGORN ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Well presented mid-terrace
- Close Warley Woods
- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with shower
- Lounge & dining room
- Neatly laid out garden
- Inspection a MUST
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £154,750

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

NEW

167 BARCLAY ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Prime location
- Directly facing Warley Woods
- Three bedrooms & bathroom
- Vestibule & hallway
- Through lounge/dining room
- Kitchen/ breakfast room
- Gas central heating
- Part PVC double glazed
- Needing modernisation
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £189,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

NEW

10 HAGLEY ROAD WEST, BEARWOOD

- Well presented semi-detached
- Adjacent Lightwoods Park
- Three bedrooms
- Box room/occ. bed 4 & study
- Refitted bathroom
- Hall with original minton tiles
- Dining room
- Utility/laundry room
- Open plan kitchen/living area
- Potential off-street parking
- Neatly laid out garden
- EPC : E

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

NEW

1 MOUNT PLEASANT, OLDBURY

- Superbly presented & refurbished end terrace
- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- Two double bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- Expensively equipped kitchen
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Additional cloakroom
- Ideal FTBs
- Simply - MUST SEE!
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £119,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

REDUCED

80 WHEATLEY ROAD, OLDBURY

- Freehold semi-detached residence
- Gas centrally heated and PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Spacious lounge
- Kitchen/breakfast room and utility
- Conservatory
- Landscaped rear garden
- Off-street parking for two/three cars
- INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE APPRECIATED
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £167,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

185 THIMBLEMILL ROAD, BEARWOOD

- Scope for extension if required
- 3 bedrooms & bathroom
- Two reception rooms
- Off-road parking for 3 cars
- Gas central heating
- PVC double glazing
- Substantial rear garden

OFFERS BASED ON £159,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

1 HEATH GREEN GROVE, HANDSWORTH

- End terraced property
- Freehold & Chain Free
- Three bedrooms
- Two living rooms
- Centrally heated
- Double glazed
- In need of renovation
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £72,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

135 HURST ROAD SMETHWICK

- Close to Warley Woods & Lightwoods Park
- Gas centrally heated
- Virtually PVC double glazed throughout
- Three bedrooms & bathroom to first floor
- Spacious lounge & open access to dining room
- Kitchen and utility
- Downstairs W.C.
- Off-street parking for two cars
- IDEAL FTBS
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £117,999

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

AUCTION

DO YOU NEED AN IMMEDIATE EXCHANGE OF CONTRACTS, EARLY COMPLETION AND THE BEST OPEN MARKET PRICE?

Our next auction will take place on
MONDAY 1ST JUNE 2015
& which will include the following Lots:

26 Wilmington Road, Quinton, B32 1DX A traditional freehold 3 bedroomed semi-detached in need of refurbishment	£125 - 135,000
36 Canalside, Winson Green, B18 4SN Beautifully refurbished freehold 3 bedroomed semi-detached in waterside setting	£ 80 - 85,000
58 Cornwall Avenue, Oldbury, B68 0SW Freehold 3 bedroomed town house needing improvement	£ 75 - 80,000
15 Dawson Street, Smethwick, B66 4JB Traditional 2 bedroomed terraced, requiring modernisation	£ 75 - 80,000
1 Embassy Drive, Oldbury, B69 2ER Freehold 3 bedroomed end town house requiring improvement	£ 70 - 80,000
78 Lightwoods Road, Bearwood, B67 5BE Freehold 2 bedroomed mid-terraced villa, needing some general cosmetic improvement	£ 90 - 95,000
85 Salop Road, Oldbury, B68 9AE 3 bedroomed end town house being gas centrally heated & double glazed	£ 85 - 90,000
Thuree House, 221 Abbey Road, Bearwood, B67 5NN Freehold individual detached 3 bedroomed corner residence, in need of sympathetic improvement	£210 - 220,000
64 Hamilton Road, Bearwood, B67 5QF Freehold semi-detached with 3 bedrooms, needing cosmetic improvement	£ 85 - 90,000
24 Arden Grove, Langley, B69 4SX Well presented mid-terraced property with central heating & double glazing	£ 75 - 80,000
4 Howfield Court, 393 Gillott Road, Edgbaston, B16 9LL Spacious 2 bedroomed flat with garage, ideal investment	£ 60 - 70,000

32 BRANDHALL COURT, OLDBURY

- Well presented ground floor flat
- PVC double glazed and well heated
- Gated development
- Superb through lounge/dining room
- Two bedrooms
- Refitted kitchen and bathroom
- Garage and communal gardens
- FULL INTERNAL INSPECTION TO BE

OFFERS BASED ON £84,950

Viewing: Bearwood Office

51 THRONE CRESCENT, ROWLEY REGIS

- Well Presented & Extended
- 3 bedrooms
- Downstairs wetroom
- Lounge & extended sitting room
- Spacious garden
- EPC : D

OFFERS BASED ON £150,000

Viewings : Bearwood Office

128 HARBORNE ROAD BEARWOOD

- Superbly situated individual detached residence
- Excellent family accommodation or investment with consent for multi-occupation
- Gas central heating
- Directly facing Warley Woods
- 6 bedrooms as private house or 7 bedrooms for multi-occupation
- 18ft lounge and separate dining room
- Cloaks/shower room
- 20ft x 14ft fully fitted dining kitchen
- Sun lounge
- Easily maintained gardens and garage included
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £475,000

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

37 EDWARD ROAD, OLDBURY

- Superbly presented & refurbished semi-detached
- Gas centrally heated, PVC double glazed & alarmed
- FIVE bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom and separate cloakroom
- Hall, lounge and extended sitting room
- Kitchen/breakfast room with integrated appliances
- Utility/cloakroom
- Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- Off-street parking for two/three cars
- INTERNAL INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : C

OFFERS BASED ON £244,950

Viewings Bearwood Office

412-414 PORTLAND ROAD, EDGBASTON

- Unique freehold end terraced property
- Easy access to Birmingham city centre
- Gas centrally heated & PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms and bathroom to first floor
- Lounge, kitchen/breakfast room and utility
- Downstairs shower room
- Recreation & games room
- 24ft leisure/music room
- Recording studio
- Control room with vocal booth and store
- Off-street parking & courtyard
- INTERNAL INSPECTION HIGHLY RECOMMENDED
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £225,000

Viewings Bearwood Office

8 WILLOWSBROOK ROAD, HALESOWEN

- Extended semi-detached
- Located in Hurst Green
- Gas centrally heated
- PVC double glazed
- Three bedrooms
- Occ. bed 4/loft conversion
- Fully tiled bathroom
- Dining room
- Extended through lounge
- Side garage

OFFERS BASED ON £199,950

VIEWINGS BEARWOOD OFFICE

PRICES from £59,000

PERRY COURT

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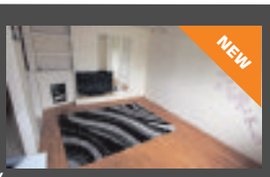
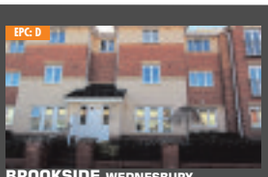
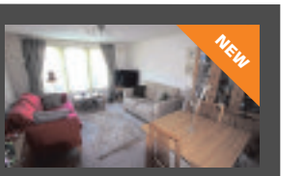
lettings@skitts.net	0121 520 2255
surveyors@skitts.net	0121 520 2255



EPC: D — NEW

WODEN ROAD SOUTH WEDNESBURY
- FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- COMMUNAL GARDENS
- PRIVATE PARKING
- SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION

£79,995

EPC: D — NEW

BROOKSIDE WEDNESBURY
- GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE & SECONDARY GLAZING
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- SHOWER ROOM
- ALLOCATED PARKING

£84,995

EPC: D — NEW

ST PAULS CRESCENT WEST BROMWICH
- THREE BEDROOM MID TERRACE
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- NO UPWARD CHAIN

£89,995

EPC: E — NEW

CONNAUGHT AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM MID TERRACE
- LOUNGE
- DINING KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- REAR GARDEN

£99,995

EPC: D — NEW

BARLOW ROAD WEDNESBURY
- A THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS W/C
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

£104,995

EPC: C — NEW

WEDGBURY CLOSE WEDNESBURY
- SECOND FLOOR MODERN APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- EN SUITE TO MASTER BEDROOM
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- ELECTIRC HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- ALLOCATED CAR PARKING

£107,000

EPC: TBA — NEW

WILLOW AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GAS FIRED CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FRONT AND REAR GARDEN

£114,995

EPC: D — NEW

STONEHOUSE CRESCENT WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- MAJORITY DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE AND DRIVEWAY
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

£127,000

EPC: TBA — NEW

COLLINS ROAD WEDNESBURY
- EXTENDED THREE BEDROOM SEMI
- EXTENDED LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- FITTED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING (WHERE SPECIFIED)
- CENTRAL HEATING (WHERE SPECIFIED)
- GARAGE AND DRIVEWAY
- REAR GARDEN

£129,995

EPC: D — NEW

WILEY AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM EXTENDED SEMI
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- EXTENDED KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GAS FIRED CENTRAL HEATING

£130,000

EPC: TBA — NEW

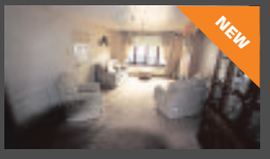
DENBIGH DRIVE WEST BROMWICH
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- OFF ROAD PARKING
- FRONT, SIDE AND REAR GARDENS

£139,995

EPC: D — NEW

LILAC GROVE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM
- CENTRAL HEATING
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- GARAGE
- REAR GARDEN

£177,500



EPC: C — NEW

SPARROW CLOSE WEDNESBURY
- FOUR BEDROOM EXTENDED DETACHED HOUSE
- LOUNGE
- EXTENDED DINING ROOM
- DOWNSTAIRS W/C
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING
- DRIVEWAY AND GARAGE
- FRONT AND REAR GARDENS

£199,995

EPC: D

VIMY ROAD WEDNESBURY
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- DINING KITCHEN
- GROUND FLORR SHOWER ROOM

£115,000

EPC: D — REDUCED

WINCHESTER ROAD WEST BROMWICH
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE/DINING AREA
- CONSERVATORY
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

£99,995

EPC:C — REDUCED

WORDSWORTH STREET WEST
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- THROUGH LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING

OFFERS £104,995

EPC: E — REDUCED

WODEN ROAD EAST WEDNESBURY
- TWO BED SEMI DETACHED
- DOUBLE GLAZED & CENTRAL HEATING
- SWIMMING POOL TO REAR
- SHARED DRIVE TO GARAGE

£120,000

EPC: C — REDUCED

WODEN ROAD EAST WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- EXTENDED KITCHEN
- GARAGE • MAJORITY DOUBLE GLAZED

£149,995

EPC: D — REDUCED

JOCKEY LANE WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
- LOUNGE
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- GARAGE & DRIVEWAY

£164,995

EPC: D — REDUCED

KENDRICK STREET WEDNESBURY
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE/DINING ROOM
- CENTRAL HEATING & DOUBLE GLAZING
- GARAGE AND DRIVEWAY

£220,000

EPC: D

SUFFOLK ROAD WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE
- DOUBLE GLAZED & CENTRAL HEATING
- OFF ROAD PARKING

£117,500

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Baker Street, Tipton

- Traditional Extended Semi Detached
- Excellent Corner position
- Tremendous Potential For Further Extensions (STP)
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £124,950
Viewing:

Locarno Road, Tipton

- Exceptional Extended Semi Detached
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Much Improved Accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £149,950
Viewing:

Anchor Drive, Tipton

- Luxury Third Floor Apartment
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Electric Heating
- No Upward Chain ● Security Entrance Doors
- 2 Bedrooms, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £82,500
Viewing:

Salcombe Grove, Bilston

- Semi Detached Famil Home
- Excellent Corner Plot (potential to extend - STP)
- Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000
Viewing:

Madin Road, Tipton

- Traditional Semi Detached
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Sought after Established Location
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

Charles Road, Tipton

- Spacious Semi Detached Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Potential To Extend (STP)
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing:

Florence Road, Tipton

- Spacious Middle Terrace
- UPVc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- No Upward Chain
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing:

Locarno Road, Tipton

- Deceptively Spacious Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Gas Central Heating
- Well Presented Accommodation
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

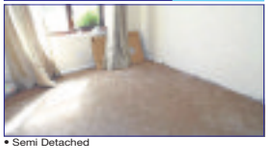
OFFERS AROUND: £116,500
Viewing:

Dawes Avenue, West Bromwich — NEW

- End of Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Lounge/Diner
- , First Floor Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: £89,950
Viewing:

Turton Road, West Bromwich — NEW



- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating, Garage

OFFERS AROUND: £130,000
Viewing:

Anchor Drive, Tipton

- Modern Purpose Built First Floor Apartment
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Electric Heating
- No Upward Chain
- 2 Bedrooms, EPC B

OFFERS AROUND: £69,950
Viewing:

Cherry Road, Tipton

- semi detached
- gas central heating
- no chain
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC E

OFFERS AROUND: £74,995
Viewing:

Dagger Lane, West Bromwich — NEW

- Traditional Mid Terrace Property
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Re-fitted First Floor Bathroom
- , Rear Garden

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

Stoney Lane, West Bromwich — NEW

- Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- , Ground Floor Bathroom

OFFERS AROUND: £100,000
Viewing:

Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury

- Traditional Terrace Property
- Two Bedrooms
- Loft Room
- EPC D, Two Reception Rooms

OFFERS AROUND: £79,950
Viewing:

Walsall Road, Wednesbury

- Traditional Terrace Property
- Two Bedrooms & Loft Room
- Two Reception Rooms
- EPC Rating E, Kitchen

OFFERS AROUND: £69,950
Viewing:

Avenue Road, Wednesbury

- Traditional Semi Detached Residence
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- , Ground Floor Modern Shower Room

OFFERS AROUND: £65,000
Viewing:

Hazel Road, Tipton

- Upper Floor Maisonette
- Two Bedrooms
- Modern Bathroom & Kitchen
- , Spacious Lounge

OFFERS AROUND: £85,000
Viewing:

Jenkinson Road, Wednesbury

- Extended Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms & Bathroom
- Through Lounge & Dining Room
- EPC Rating D, Kitchen & Utility Area

OFFERS AROUND: £127,950
Viewing:

Hall Green Road, West Bromwich

- Extended Semi Detached Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Extended Breakfast Kitchen
- Energy Rating D, Side Garage

OFFERS AROUND: £165,000
Viewing:

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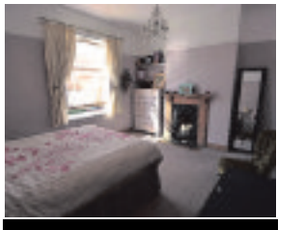
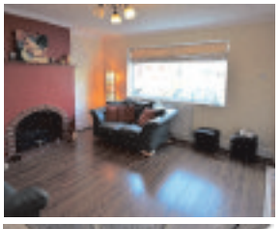


St Marys Road, Bearwood

- Charming Traditional Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Useful Loft Space
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £154,950

NEW

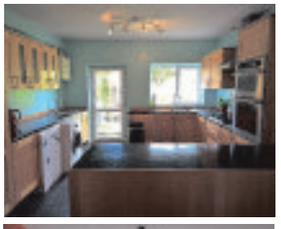
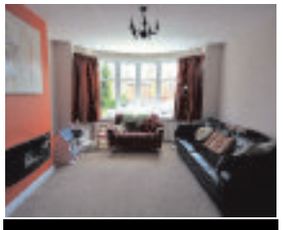


Dog Kennel Lane, Oldbury

- Attractive & Extended Semi
- Three Reception Rooms
- Four Bedrooms
- Ample Parking & Garage
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £219,950

NEW

Ridgacre Lane, Quinton

- Tastefully Presented Semi
- Four Bedrooms
- Extended Dining Kitchen
- Ground Floor WC
- Ample Parking
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £259,950

NEW

Trinder Road, Smethwick

- Beautifully Presented Semi
- Three Bedrooms
- Dining Kitchen
- Attractive Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £144,950

NEW

Astbury Avenue, Smethwick

- Charming End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Spacious Dining Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating TBC

Offers In The Region Of £114,950

NOW AVAILABLE

Galton Road, Bearwood

- Beautifully Presented Terrace
- Four Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Wealth Of Period Features
- Viewing Essential
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £219,950

Glyn Farm Road, Quinton

- Well Presented Semi
- Three Bedrooms
- Generously Sized Garden
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £165,000

NEW PRICE

Cheshire Road, Smethwick

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Generously Sized
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Ideal Family Home
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £129,950

NEW

Willow Avenue, Edgbaston

- Traditional Semi-Detached
- Requiring General Improvement
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £154,950

Overdale Road, Quinton

- An Extended Semi
- Two Reception Rooms
- Three Bedrooms
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £139,950

NEW PRICE

Doulton Close, Harborne

- Most Attractive Mid Terrace
- Two Reception Rooms
- Three Bedrooms
- Contemporary Shower Room
- Garage
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £164,950

Bishopton Road, Bearwood

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The Uplands, Smethwick

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DAVIES & SON BUILDERS. Extensions, loft conversions, roofing, driveways. See us on 'Rated People'. Call 01902 579592 / 07837 994465

carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. **Recession Prices.**
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

carpet fitters

A CARPETS & VINYLS supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

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AD DAMP PROOFING
All damp and wood treatments, condensation, plastering.
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Same Day Service
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01922 709543

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DARLASTON FABS 30 years experience in supplying gates and railings.Call: 07597 488290

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YOUR LOCAL HANDYMAN
FREE QUOTES
All work guaranteed, All trades covered, References available on request. No job too big or too small!
CALL MIKE: 07947 621047
0121 6010479

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A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE
Full, part and single rubbish removed.
Garage and sheds cleared.
Ercol and Teak furniture wanted
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A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. **07852 172641 / 07710 360327**

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Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
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Local & Distance
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Competitive Prices:
Moves from only £99
Call 07870 341089

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL DEAN! Business/Domestic, Deliveries/Relocation/full house 1 item.07429 453209 / 01902 830870 01384 940260 / 01922 263460.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances. Items large or small. Call: 01902 741546 or 07899 635852.

roofing

PREMIER ROOFING all aspects. 0121 532 7601 / 07875 387445. www.rooferwestmidlands.com

skip hire

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www.stoneskiphire.co.uk

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- **AFFORDABLE SKIPS**
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- **PUNJABI SPEAKERS**

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Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:
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tree services

BUDGET TREE SURGERY Tall or small tree's, hedge & conifere trimming, garden tidy up's. Call Adam 07936 882552/ 0121 5053558.

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

guns & dogs

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS
Advertisers must ensure that they meet all necessary legal requirements for owning and using guns.

AIRGUNS, SHOTGUNS, antique guns, taxidermy and fishing memorabilia wanted. 07968 624202

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS
Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:
1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

commercial premises sale / let

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties: 0121 520 5318.

WE PAY 100% of purchase price EVERYTIME!

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We buy any house

30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots...
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SELL FAST
- Property investor needs properties in your area
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- We will cover all your fees
- Quicker service

AND GET A BETTER PRICE

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wolverhampton properties

- Legal fees paid
- Guaranteed offer
- Any condition
- No fees
- Repossessions stopped

Subject to terms

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Lines open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

LOOK
WE BUY ANY HOUSE
national homeowners helpline.co.uk
in a mess? talk in confidence we can help
WE PAY MORE
ANY AREA
ANY CONDITION *subject to terms *PI Group
24/7 0800 085 6626
24/7 0121 274 0398

---

pink run by women
*subject to terms
Property Investment Group

sell quick
- No Fees*
- Any property
- Any condition
- Free confidential service
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- Repossessions stopped
- Deceased estates

0800 169 1118 call free 24 hours 01384 226087

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We are looking for houses in your area. We will take any type of property in any condition. Call us first - highest prices paid
Telephone
01922 689023
straight forward investment solutions

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!

I pay 100% of purchase price
Call now for the best price on your house
- Guaranteed offer*
- Any condition
- Free solicitors
- No fees*

* Terms apply GUARANTEED

24 hours Free phone or landline
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01384 226086

Dewmark Homes
Part of the PI Group

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100% every time* Free Solicitors No Fees*
Any Property* Any Condition*
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01384 226086
PI Group *Subject to terms

SICK of trying to sell your house
Call the HOUSE DOCTOR
Now for the best price
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ABCD
A Better Cash Deal
Its a simple as that, you get the best deal on your home from FIRST GENERAL HOMES
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0800 917 1233

One phone call solves all your problems
sell your house now
A guaranteed offer, no fees, fast completion, any condition, any circumstances
local investor
01902 628047
0800 633 5226

Sell your house
We are just a phone call away
- Any circumstances
- Any condition
- No fees - fast completion

0800 066 5558
0121 274 0398

Cash paid for your property
Guaranteed offer*
Free solicitors - no fees*
NOW
call us
0800 085 2455
0121 308 7786 24/7
Aston Wood Properties
PI Group *Subject to terms

---

the name you can trust
Harrison Fowler
Any property, Any condition
FREE valuation
FREE solicitors
No obligation
No fees
Fast completion
0800 587 2422 / 01902 628060 24 hours

STOP! problem property?
Structural problems, mine shafts, non standard construction, concrete properties, steel properties, rising ground rent, rising lease costs, Japanese Knotweed, subsidence, nothing worries us...we will buy your house whatever the problem
no problem!
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PI Group Subject to terms

I BUY ANY HOUSE
4 CASH QUICK AND EASY
call Alex
0800 111 44
01543 499 032
Anytime
SOLD

STRAIGHT TALK
FAST CASH OFFER FOR YOUR HOUSE
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Need Fast Cash?
Buying property since 1984
THE BEST OFFER ON YOUR HOUSE 24/7
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01384 226087

DON'T DELAY CALL TODAY
for a fast cash offer
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0800 633 5288

NO STRINGS
Local Investor pays you more
Call any time
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CALL PENNY for TOP PRICES NOW
*Local *Honest *Reliable
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01384 226086

PICK UP the phone CALL NOW
Best Price
Sam
01543 499032
0800 500 3109

I WILL BUY YOUR HOUSE
Call today for a best price
0800 731 1160
0121 274 0398

---

6 Property

properties wanted

HOME CASH BUYER
WILL PAY 15K MORE
Complete within 7 days
Ring Paul,
07870 341089

A A PROPERTIES PAY A better cash price. Call Richard 07756 022973.

A BEAT ALL CASH DEAL We pay 100% of purchase price always 0800 085 6626.

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ALWAYS CALL US FIRST for the top price for your house. 0800 169 1118.

WE ALWAYS PAY MORE for the best price now. Call Aardvark 0121 308 7786

accommodation to let

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

FLEXIBLE, Affordable, Unbeatable - Rooms and self contained studios to let, most bills included. Wolverhampton, Sandwell and Walsall. 07479 082068

SINGLE SELF contained flatlet, all own amenities, suit single, mature person. Tipton 0759 1236121.

THREE BEDROOM SEMI £145 per week. West Bromwich. 0121 532 3373. After 3pm.

houses for sale

CHALET FOR SALE
Welshpool Area,
2 beds 1 en-suite, separate bathroom/wc, Double glazed, central heating, sky tv, mains Utilities Fully Furnished, washer/dryer. Quiet Private countryside Park
Reduced £49,950
or very near offer
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mobile homes

BURNHAM ON SEA
Unity Farm
3 BED CARAVAN TO LET
WHIT WEEK ONWARDS
Good rate
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overseas property

NOTICE TO READERS
Readers are advised to seek independent legal advice before entering into any financial commitments.

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SOLD

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Classified Ads

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HGV Driver Training
DSA QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS
HGV C+E (ARTIC) & C (RIGID)
7.5T (C1) SMALL LORRY
CAR & TRAILER (B+E)
MINIBUS (D1)
1-2-1 TRAINING
INITIAL CPC TRAINING & ADR
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from 7hr blocks - Full 35hrs
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STOKE ON TRENT 4-5 JULY 17-18 OCTOBER
TELFORD 8-9 JULY

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engineering

POWER PRESS SETTER/OPERATOR Experienced setter/operator required. Experience in similar position on mechanical and hydraulic presses 25T to 200T setting progression and deep drawing tools essential.
Email sales@bracebridgeengineering.co.uk
or in writing to address
Bracebridge Engineering Ltd
75-97 Walsall Road
Perry Barr
Birmingham B42 1TX.

finance & accounting

EXPERIENCED Credit controller required for The Green Bus, Hockley. We are a small, friendly firm requiring a flexible person to collect debt, manage the sales ledger and cover other accounting duties. Full time, permanent role with good rate of pay. Please send your CV to careers@thegreenbus.co.uk

office & secretarial

PAYROLL / HR MANAGER Experienced person required. Knowledge of EARNIE payroll and Auto Enrolment would be advantageous. Must be confidant, enthusiastic with an excellent level of common sense and able to work on own initiative. 36.5 hrs pw. Salary negotiable. Apply at www.giffords.biz and complete the online application form.

RECEPTIONIST / Administrator required full time for busy Utilities Company based in Tipton. Your role will involve answering incoming calls, dealing with visitors and providing administrative support to departments as necessary. Previous experience is essential and you must have excellent communication skills and knowledge of word and excel. Please apply via email with your current CV to jackie.boddy@dooceygroup.co.uk Strictly no agencies. The Doocey group is an equal opportunities employer.

part time - general

NEWS DELIVERERS
needed in the
Penkridge and Coven area
****
The Mesty Croft area of Wednesbury
****
Please contact
Customer Services on 0800 174 064.

DEDICATED, SELF-MOTIVATED PERSON
required to deliver financial advice service to schools in the Walsall and Sandwell area.
A demanding but rewarding job, ideal for someone with good people/communication skills who can work under their own initiative.
The successful candidate will have extensive knowledge of excel or equivalent.
The job is based in schools and requires attendance at evening meetings.
6 point salary scale starting at £27,142 with a minimum of 8 weeks annual leave to be taken during school holidays.
Letter of application with CV to: Total Finance (Schools) Ltd, 27 Park Avenue, Rowley Regis. B65 9ES
Closing Date: 15th May 2015
www.totalfinance-schools.co.uk

full time - general

Bedroom Fitters
Required
starplan
Starplan are now recruiting bedroom fitters to be based out of our Wednesbury depot and mainly fitting in the Birmingham Area
Proof of professional fitting of bedrooms is essential, as well as being very customer focused.
This is a rare opportunity to be considered either as employed or self-employed (+£200 per day!) with no collecting monies from customers.
If you want to fit for one of the UK's most successful bedroom company's then post or email your CV to:
The Personnel Manager, Starplan Furniture Ltd
Javelin Park,Wednesbury,WS10 7ND.
steveeaves@starplanbedrooms.com

WEIGHBRIDGE Operator/ Administrator. Duties include weighing vehicles, producing reports, barrier control, processing orders, general admin. Must be computer literate, confidant, enthusiastic with an excellent level of common sense. 36.5 hrs pw. Salary negotiable. Apply at www.giffords.biz and complete the online application form.

CUSTOMER SALES ADVISERS x2 full time £13,892 to £15,941 per annum Portway Lifestyle Centre, Oldbury & Haden Hill Leisure Centre, Cradley Heath Closing date 12th May, 2015 For more details visit www.slt-leisure.co.uk

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

SELLING YOUR CAR?
We have a package to suit every budget.
Packages start from as little as
£19.50 for 6 nights
Plus
6 nights free if you do not sell.
CALL
01902 317878

JAGUAR S-TYPE
2001, 104,350 miles, abs, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, fsh, alarm, MoT, auto, metallic paint, cruise control, pas, sunroof.
£1,995.
01384 423924.

MERCEDES C270 CDI ELEGANCE
Auto 2002, full leather, electric heated front seats, alloys, ABS, EW, AC, CL, CD, alarm, headlamp wash, front/rear parking sensors, MoT April 2016.
Very Clean Car £2,000
07724 629285

PEUGEOT 307 TURBO MDi, 1.9, diesel, 48,333mls, 5dr, silver hatchback, 8mths MoT, Excellent condition, £2,000 ono. 0121 502 4883.

PEUGEOT 307CC Convertible, black, 2L, 4,800mls from new, full MoT and service. £3,600 ono. 0121 526 4793.

VAUXHALL CORSA SXi, 2010, red, 43k, FSH, MoT April 2016, 1 lady owner, air-con, CC. Good looking car. £3,999. o.n.o. 07504 831366.

VW GOLF GTI, 2003, 86,500 miles, metallic grey, abs, electric mirrors, air con, alarm, leather interior, heated seats, £2,200 ono. 07825 628024.

cars under £1500

BMA Est. Here 25 Years
A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000
Open every day, Full MOT's
01902 490555
Dale Street, Bilston, WV14 7JY

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FORD KA ZETEC CLIMATE, 3dr, hatchback, MoT Jan 2016, 2007, very good condition. £1,100 ono. 0121 5371871 or 07908 619417.

FORD MONDEO GHIA TDCi, 2.0, 56 reg, electrics, new MoT, A/C, stereo, alarm, central locking. Service history. 1 owner from new. Immaculate.
£1,200 ono.
07547 132 213.

MAZDA Berkeley, MX5, R regn, full MoT, metallic green, any trial. £1,295. 01543 506992.

driving tuition

Homer's
Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS
MANUAL & AUTOMATIC
ADI/PDI REQUIRED. Gift vouchers available.
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01562 870050 / 01384 234954
01543 660120 / 0121 564 0090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

A BRITISH BIKE WANTED for Restoration by retired gent. Triumph/BSA/Norton. Any condition. Cash paid. 01543 422237.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

SCRAPCARBUYERS.CO.UK
TOP PRICES PAID
0800 533 5139
0121 526 4666
07795 535 007

BJ CARS PAYS MORE
www.bjcars.co.uk
Scrap it legally, NO fines, NO comebacks.
All scrap cars/vans wanted
Best Prices!
01902 498542
01902 658792 EVE

ABC AUTO SALVAGE WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611 Oldbury Area.

vehicle hire

BEST PRICE CAR + VAN HIRE Daily,Weekly, Call Practical 0121 556 1315 practical.co.uk

vehicles wanted

CROWN MOTORS Guarantee best cash price for unwanted cars and vans. Call 07585 664389.

spares & accessories

spares/parts

BASTABLES CAR SPARES Batteries, 3 yr warrenty. Antifreeze/coolant. All seasons screenwash. 0121 5522851 / 0121 5448858

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES
For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to
Marie Hogg on 01902 713146 or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

LORNA IRIS MAUREEN COGHILL (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 1 Ernest Road Smethwick West Midlands B67 7LP, who died on 22/12/2014, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 10/07/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
RUSSELL & CO
Holland House Church Street Malvern Worcestershire WR14 2AH T440009

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
The Borough Council of Sandwell (Castle Road, Tipton) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2015, intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Castle Road, Tipton from its junction with Black Country New Road to its junction with Menin Road. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 18/05/15 effective from 18/05/15. Traffic will be diverted via Castle Road, Dudley Road, Birmingham New Road and vice-versa. Purpose – repairs to a damaged sewer pipe by Severn Trent Water.

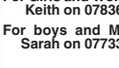
SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF SANDWELL (ELLIOTTS ROAD, TIPTON TO BIRMINGHAM CANAL VIA UNION STREET) TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 2015
The Borough Council of Sandwell in exercise of its powers under Sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers and in consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984 has made the following Order:-
No person shall cause or permit use by horses, any motor vehicle or non-mechanically propelled vehicles except pedestrians and pedal cycles to proceed in the restricted byway commencing at the eastern end of the footway forming part of the adopted highway known as Elliotts Road, Tipton in a north easterly direction to the Birmingham Canal via the adopted highway known as Union Street.
A copy of the Order, including a map showing the restricted byway affected and a statement of reasons may be examined at Sandwell Council House, Oldbury, West Midlands during normal office hours.
The Order was made on 5th May 2015 and shall come into operation on 15th May 2015.
Any person wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the ground that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 or on the ground that any Regulation made thereunder has not been complied with in relation to the Order, may within 6 weeks from the 5th May 2015 apply to the High Court for that purpose.
Dated 7th day of May 2015
N SHARMA, Director – Governance

10 Personals

personal

GAY MALE 40s
Seeks gay male for friendship / relationship, aged 25 - 40.
Box Number P19811 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

GENUINE MALE 58
WLTM, female Asian / English for days out, holidays, meals etc.
Must be honest and genuine. Photo appreciated, all letters answered.
Box Number P19803 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.



LADY EARLY 70's
With GSOH and young outlook, slim build, would like to meet gentleman between 60 and 75 years old for days out together, initially for Friendship.
Car owner preferred but not essential.
Box Number P19808 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

MALE 45
Brown hair, blue eyes, medium build, looking for female age unimportant, single moms welcome, for friendship maybe more.
Box Number P19805 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

sports clubs

WYRLEY JUNIORS FC
A Friendly and ambitious FA Community Club is looking for Players and Teams from 4 years old to Open Age for next Season.
For Girls and Women contact Keith on 07836 202764
For boys and Men contact Sarah on 07733 302759.

general

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

star extra TRAVEL

Coach inclusive breaks – Two days
Selected weekend departures
Saturday Night from £139.95
Theatre Weekend with Dinner from £149.95
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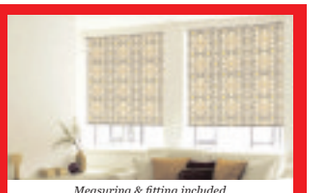
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JEAN, shy brunette with lots of love to give to the right man, seeks mature male to share relationship with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417285**

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. **Tel No: 0906 500 1913 Box 415301**

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SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067**

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. **Text only Mailbox No: 4655519**

PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727**

FEMALE, kind caring and loving seeks similar male for relationship text only all texts answered. **Text only Mailbox No: 4655519**

HI my name is Zara. I am 5ft 4ins, slim build. I am looking for a genuine male aged between 45 and 50 with gsoh who enjoys going out. **Text only Mailbox No: 4362903**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling, WLTM well built mature male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416917**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416861**

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416801**

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707**

SLIM fair haired lady, 5ft4 looking for a male 30 to 40 for ltr in warwickshire area. **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4527227**

Men seeking women

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ADVENTUROUS 34yr old, slim, dark hair, creative, likes music, cycling, photography, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417235**

MALE, 5' 7" slim, likes walks, cycling, eating out, seeks female 40 to 60 with similar interests. **Text only to Mailbox No: 4714619**

MALE, late 60s, 5' 6", loving, caring nature, seeks lady for LTR. Text me **Text only to Mailbox No: 4310699**

SIMON white male, looking for relationship with fun to be with, voluptuous, big black female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376863**

DARREN 42, likes pubs, clubs, drives, meals out, motocross, seeks female, 28-35. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389127**

56YR old widow seeking female, 50-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417201**

55YR old male, 5ft 6ins, dark hair, loyal, likes keep fit, seeks special female to light my fire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393333**

SLIM attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTM lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259**

VICTOR, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

PAUL 63, seeks attractive younger lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417121**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

MALE 67, smoker, solvent, OHAC, seeking feminine, voluptuous woman, 60-65 for days out, weekends away, holidays and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417043**

RICHARD 44, single, happy go lucky, likes pubs, clubs, socialising, seeking female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416995**

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

NICK 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881**

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This can then be refined and mixed with conventional diesel or used on its own. According to test results, it is also more efficient than conventional diesel, with 70 per cent of its stored energy available.

The fuel is being produced by Sunfire in Dresden in collaboration with Audi, the only downside being that only 160 litres are being produced per day. However there are plans for a larger factory and once viable production levels have been achieved it could sell to the public for less than the current cost of regular diesel fuel.

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 80.7 (3.5), Combined 76.3 (3.7). CO_2 emissions: 98g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes & may not reflect real-life driving experience.

Model Shown: Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in Brilliant Sporty Blue Metallic at £21,345 On The Road (OTR). *15YM Civic range from £15,975 for 1.4 S Manual non metallic to £25,860 for 1.8 EX+ Auto metallic. **Terms and Conditions:** New retail 15YM Civic registered from 01 April 2015 to 30 June 2015. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. **Deposit contribution:** £500 Honda deposit contribution on Civic Diesel models purchased through Honda Aspirations. **Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Honda Aspirations (PCP):** *5.9% APR Representative example shown based on Civic Sport 1.6 i-DTEC Manual in Brilliant Sporty Blue Metallic at £21,345 total cash price with 37 months 5.9% APR Representative PCP (interest rate per annum 5.68% fixed). Minimum customer deposit 0%, maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe plc is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years Servicing includes:** All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. 5 Years Servicing is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,430 including VAT, resulting in a £930 saving for the customer) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.

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Supercar thrills from hatchback

By Sharon Walters

Feast your eyes on the ultimate 308. Peugeot has unveiled a stunning new version of the award-winning compact family hatchback – with a combined 500bhp and four-wheel drive.

Badged the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid, it has been developed by Peugeot Sport, the brand's in-house engineering and racing division, which last year unveiled the critically acclaimed RCZ R.

The car's plug-in petrol hybrid powertrain pushes the boundaries of sporting prowess in the segment, offering an extraordinary performance. The car is capable of hitting 62mph in four seconds, yet still has low CO2 emissions of 70g/km. "Peugeot Sport's expertise applies an uncompromising approach to meeting targets. With our experience in hybrid vehicles developed with the Peugeot 908, the high-performance hybrid powertrain fitted to the 308 gives a glimpse of the potential for ultra-sports models in the future," said Bruno Famin, director at Peugeot Sport.

The contemporary style and sporting prowess of the 308 – the Car of the Year 2014 – remain clearly visible. However, the 308 R HYbrid also re-imagines design cues explored on the Quartz concept, seen most recently at March's Geneva Motor Show. It has front and rear tracks widened by 80mm and riding on 235/35 R19 tyres with front end styling that is dynamic and imposing. The grille features a chequered pattern which allows air to cool the 500hp powertrain. The side scoops are home to the sequential LED indicators, while the central scoop sports the 308 R HYbrid signature.

Cloaked in an intense blue and developed using fluorescent pigments and glass particles, this colour salutes both the hybrid powertrain and the shade historically reserved for French competition vehicles. On the rear doors, the blue is matched with a matte black, giving a new interpretation of the car's clean lines. At the rear, the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid is understated, with a narrow spoiler at the top of the tailgate. The bumper's twin air scoops help keep the battery temperature down by drawing out the hot air, whilst the lower section is embellished with a touch of white emphasising the car's dynamic character.

Dramatic

Peugeot 'i-Cockpit' instrumentation means the interior is familiar, but that's where similarities to the standard 308 end. Four individual sports seats create a dramatic interior which point to the sole aim of Peugeot 308 R HYbrid – world-class performance. The upper fittings and roof lining are slate grey and in sporting tradition, the cabin is finished with touches of red, with attention paid around the dials, steering wheel centre marker and central console.

In a unique twist, the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid uses materials taken from the range, which the brand usually reserves for concept cars. Hence, the dashboard is covered in a fabric produced using a digital weaving technique. This innovative material can be used to produce large and complex parts that are soft to the touch with no need for foam, making for a lighter vehicle.

The compact steering wheel, upholstered in perforated leather and bearing the '308 R HYbrid' logo, allows for precise positioning during cornering. The steering wheel paddles fall immediately to hand, giving the driver finger-tip control over the six-speed gearbox. A head-up display provides all relevant driving information without the need to take your eyes off the road. Finally, the two buttons on the central console allow the driver to keep a check on the mechanics; the first activates the powerful powertrain, whilst the second gives access to four driving modes.

At the heart of the Peugeot 308 R HYbrid is a technical innovation – a plug-in powertrain with four-wheel drive that develops 500hp. The unit combines three sources of power, each capable of moving the vehicle independently of the others. They are a four-cylinder 1.6-litre THP 270 S&S petrol engine, plus two electric motors – each with power of 85kW/115hp – mounted one on each axle. The front one is linked to the six-speed gearbox.

The result is a family hatchback which is capable of supercar performance. The Peugeot 308 R HYbrid can hit 62mph (100km/h) from a standing start in only 4.0 seconds, with top speed electronically limited to 155mph. In spite of this performance, CO2 emissions are just 70g/km.

"If we were able to reach this kind of performance on a C-segment, it is all down to our passion for a challenge and our desire for excellence. Peugeot 308 R HYbrid is part of a very select club of cars reaching 0-62mph in four seconds" said Jean-Philippe Delaire, Peugeot Sport head of development, 308 R HYbrid powertrain.

The Peugeot Sport engineers have equipped the car with four driving modes: Hot Lap mode is the most powerful and can reach a total of 500hp and maximum torque of 730Nm; Track mode delivers 400hp and 530Nm, mainly from the petrol engine and the rear electric motor; Road mode is specially designed for road use with power of 300hp and torque of 400Nm; ZEV makes priority use of the rear electric motor. The front electric motor comes into play, depending on the pressure applied on the accelerator pedal.

The all-wheel drive system of the 308 R HYbrid makes for formidable handling, especially when coming out of the corners.

Keep up with the latest news at #PEUGEOT308RHYbrid

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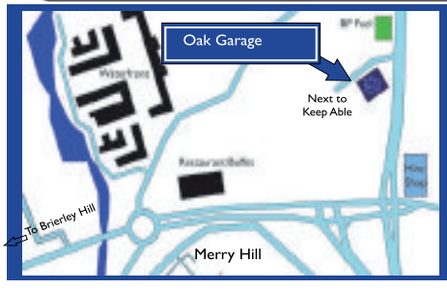

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0605

Honda's new HR-V looking on line to be ultra efficient

By James Parker

Honda says its all-new HR-V will be one of the most efficient cars in its class and have an unmatched combination of sought-after attributes when it arrives in showrooms across the UK this summer.

As well as dynamic styling, class-leading interior space and versatility, and advanced infotainment and safety technologies, the new HR-V will deliver fuel economy and emissions among the best in its class.

It will be offered from launch with a choice of 1.6 litre i-DTEC diesel and 1.5 litre i-VTEC petrol engines, both from Honda's advanced Earth Dreams Technology series.

"The Honda HR-V created this fast growing market segment back in 1999 and for 2015 the all new HR-V will offer a class leading ownership proposition, refinement, sleek styling, a quality feel as well as being packed to the roof with safety and technology features.

"We are confident that the HR-V will perform favourably against its main competitors in this segment, such as the current market leading Nissan Qashqai," said Leon Brannan, Head of Car, Honda (UK).

Combining the 1.6 litre i-DTEC diesel paired with a newly-engineered six-speed manual transmission, Honda's new subcompact SUV will return fuel economy figures from 71mpg, with CO2 emissions starting from just 104g/km.

HR-V customers won't find performance compromised by the car's frugality, however, with 118bhp powering the new HR-V from 0-62mph in 10.1 seconds.

Petrol buyers can select a 130 PS 1.5 litre i-VTEC engine, achieving combined fuel economy of 54.2mpg and CO2 emissions from 120 g/km when they opt for the CVT automatic transmission.

Economy

When married with the standard six-speed manual, the new petrol-powered HR-V delivers fuel economy of 50mpg and CO2 emissions at a highly competitive 130 g/km.

Sprightly performance is assured with 62mph reached from standstill in just 10.3 seconds with the manual and 10.9 seconds when equipped with the optional CVT.

The new HR-V's efficient performance credentials are aided by its design and class-leading aerodynamics, with underbody panels optimising airflow. In profile, the HR-V portrays a characterful poise, with the distinctive, boldly sculpted lines of a coupé merged with the tough, solid stance of a robust SUV.

Inside,the new HR-V will offer class-leading boot space: 453 litres with the rear seats up and 1,026 litres with the rear seats down.

Thanks to innovative packaging, the Honda HR-V's best-in-class interior space is exceptionally versatile and incorporates Honda's highly practical Magic Seats system.

Premium quality materials and sophisticated cabin design are blended with the feel of a sporty, enveloping cockpit.

Specification highlights include the advanced Honda Connect in-car infotainment system, and a wide range of safety aids employing radar and camera technologies to scan the road ahead.

Further details including pricing will be available closer to the new HR-V's summer launch.

New SEAT Alhambra – intelligent, innovative

By James Parker

SEAT is continuing its product offensive with the new generation of its Alhambra. The intelligent and versatile MPV is up to 15 per cent more fuel efficient thanks to its new engines and even more dynamic thanks to increased power output.

The Alhambra remains at the very forefront of its class with new comfort and assistance systems, as well as innovative connectivity and infotainment offerings. The new Alhambra will arrive at dealerships this summer, with UK pre-ordering starting at the end of May.

"Alhambra has seen a year of record sales in 2014. Innovation, driving fun, utility and safety are the keywords for the new-generation Alhambra, making it the perfect partner for an active lifestyle," says Jürgen Stackmann, chairman of the executive committee SEAT, S.A. "Its compelling concept combines the very best functionality and state-of-the-art technology with an excellent standard of quality and workmanship. Plus, in true SEAT fashion, it offers incredible value for money."

The line-up of petrol and diesel engines has been completely redeveloped. Each powertrain fulfils the stringent Euro 6 emissions standard. The turbocharged direct-injection units are also up to 15 per cent more fuel efficient. Powered by the 2.0 TDI 150 PS for instance, the New Alhambra's fuel consumption is an impressive 57.6 mpg, with 130 grams of CO_2 per km.

Forefront

In the UK, the 2.0 TDI engines will be offered with 150 PS and 184 PS (torque 380 Nm). A 1.4 TSI petrol engine delivering 150 PS also joins the fold.

"The Alhambra stays at the very forefront with its further improved fuel consumption and emissions figures. With its new technologies, it provides the best possible combination of dynamic driving fun and excellent comfort." says Dr. Matthias Rabe, SEAT executive vice president for research and development.

All engines can be combined with the DSG dual-clutch automatic transmission, which in its latest generation also boasts a fuel-saving coasting function. As soon as the driver lifts off the accelerator, the Alhambra runs with the engine decoupled.

The new Alhambra comes with a new generation of SEAT Easy Connect infotainment systems. These include high-resolution touchscreen displays and the very latest processors for much faster booting and rapid route calculation, offering a completely new level of connectivity too.

The multi-collision brake system is also standard equipment in the New Alhambra. In the event that the driver can no longer intervene following an accident, it initiates automatic braking to avoid a secondary collision. New to the line-up is the Blind-Spot Sensor, which warns of unseen vehicles when changing lane. Also new in the Alhambra is DCC (Dynamic Chassis Control). The system regulates the damper valves in a matter of milliseconds to adapt the vehicle characteristics to the exact driving situation - whether it's supreme comfort or a sportier drive. The new massage seats also deliver an exceptionally high level of long-distance comfort.

The Alhambra's design has been subtly updated. New rear lights with LED technology display SEAT's distinctive light signature, which underscores its family connections, as do the new brand logo set into the modified front grille and the new wheel designs. The interior comes with new trim colours, the steering wheel design is taken from the SEAT Leon and some of the control elements have been redesigned. The keyless entry and start system is another ease of use feature.

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Late score is enough to see off Bulldogs

Buxton Bulls 28
Birmingham Bulldogs 20

TWO quick fire opening scores from the home side seemed to point to a torrid afternoon for Brum, but they rallied superbly and, in scoring terms, outdid the hosts for the remainder of the match.

Buxton were ahead inside five minutes with a converted try. Then went down field again where they posted another.

Bulldogs began to find their rhythm, and were rewarded when prop Mike "Floz" Florrey charged over.

This spurred on the Bulldogs and full back Nathan Burchell set off on a sidestepping run that left defenders clutching thin air to touch down. Scrum-half Nick Evans converted.

Just on the break, Buxton came back with an unconverted try.

Brum got just the start they needed to the second half as right winger Lee Griffin broke clear and outpaced the defence to score. Evans added the extra.

Evans also laid the foundation for the next score. His midfield break saw the ball moved to right winger Dan Retter and the flying Scotsman raced over.

The next score would be significant and it was Buxton who claimed it, a converted try.

Then right at the death, Buxton posted another to give them an eight-point margin of victory, which was a bit harsh on Bulldogs' efforts.

This Saturday Bulldogs are at home to Telford Raiders Kick off 2.30pm.

For more information call 07971 964570 or 0121 707 8773

McAuley deal is a 'no-brainer'

Gareth McAuley and Diafra Sakho of West Ham

CHRIS Brunt believes offering Gareth McAuley a new deal this summer should be a 'no-brainer' for Albion.

The 35-year-old defender's current contract expires in the summer but Brunt believes his fellow Northern Irishman still has plenty to offer the Baggies.

McAuley endured a frustrating first half to the season but has been a regular fixture in the team under Tony Pulis.

And Brunt said: "Since he got back into the team just before Christmas he's done very well and he's been very consistent. You only have to look back over the last four years and see just how consistent he has been. "He has probably been our most consistent performer so I think that's a no-brainer.

"I think everybody at the club will want him to stay.

"All the lads want him to stay because he's great to have around the place and he works unbelievably hard at his game for somebody who's getting on a bit." Brunt also believes no-one should be fooled by McAuley's age, adding: "He's a freak – he's a fit lad for his age and he looks after himself well.

"That's credit to him. He came into the game late and he obviously wants to play at the highest level for as long as he can so fingers crossed he can get something sorted." McAuley is among players out of contract in the summer and Brunt believes everyone has a point to prove over the final four games."

Sako warned to lower wage demands by Premier clubs

ALBION and Villa have told Wolves winger Bakary Sako to lower his wage demands if he wants to make a Premier League move across the West Midlands.

Both the Baggies and the Villans have insisted they will not meet Sako's initial asking price – believed to be around £50,000 per week – and will look elsewhere unless the Mali international lowers his sights.

But both clubs remain keen to sign the out-of-contract Molineux wideman and hope to negotiate a solution as the 27-year-old prepares for a summer auction for his services.

Sako is out of contract at Wolves and looks set to leave after an impressive season with Kenny Jackett's men, who missed out on the Championship play-offs only on goal difference at the weekend.

Wolves have promised to offer Sako a new deal to stay but it is unlikely they will be able to compete financially with Premier League sides and other clubs from top European leagues.

Sako confirmed that both Albion and Villa had expressed an interest in signing him this summer.

And he revealed he favours a move to the Premier League over possible deals elsewhere in Europe.

Leicester are also believed to be interested but Albion had hoped to steal a march on both the Foxes and Villa.

However, Sako's salary demands, which also include a sizeable signing-on fee, have taken Baggies officials by surprise.

Boss Tony Pulis is keen on Sako but the club will not sanction a deal that would make him their highest earner.

It's a tall order to post world record

Going up in the world – Wednesbury players with their certificate from the Guinness Book of World Records for having the tallest posts

WEDNESBURY Rugby Club had their world-beating status rubber-stamped as they celebrated their annual President's Day.

The Black Country outfit boast the tallest rugby posts on the globe at their Woden Road North ground.

Their Guinness World Records award was presented following the annual clash between a Wednesbury XV and an invited president's team.

Wednesbury's world-beating posts, erected in 2004, stand at 38.35metres tall.

They toppled the previous record of 33.68m, held by the Roan Antelope Club, in Zambia.

Mayor of Sandwell Derek Rowley, and his consort Glenis Rowley, presented the world record certificate to club president David Bryant.

Wednesbury, who finished ninth in the 12-team Midlands 3 West (North) this season, were 21-0 up against their presidential counterparts when the match was halted early in the second half.

Competitive

The annual friendly clash was played with a competitive spirit, with some strong tackling.

Wednesbury broke the deadlock on eight minutes when, after Aaron Harris ran on to a long pass, Devlin side-stepped the President's XV defence and raced to the line. Dan Till added the conversion.

John Bullock picked up from the base of the ruck and dived over the whitewash for Wednesfield's second try five minutes later.

Till again converted.

After a period of stalemate, Jack Harris wriggled over the line for another Wednesfield try two minutes before the break. Till converted.

Both captains agreed to abandon the match in the second half when try-scorer Dominic Devlin suffered a knee injury and needed to be taken to hospital.

Club coach Gary Summers said: "It was a good game until the injury. We wish to thank all of the players taking part, particularly the President's team who gave their time to travel up to the club.

"All at the club wish Dominic a speedy recovery."

Brummies get boost with sponsor deal

BIRMINGHAM'S Speedway revival has been handed a boost with a major new sponsorship arrangement.

The Surestop Brummies, who are unbeaten in their first-ever Third Division campaign, have signed a major deal with premier Vauxhall dealership, Lookers Vauxhall, Birmingham.

It's a terrific commercial boost to the club, who have made a successful return to the track.

The tie-up with the dealership includes extensive advertising at Perry Barr Stadium via perimeter fence banners, programme advertising, vehicle displays and match sponsorship.

Birmingham's Commercial Manager Joe McLaughlin said: "We are delighted to attract such a major brand as Lookers Vauxhall to our sponsorship portfolio."

Gridiron girl Lauren plays for her country

A member of Sandwell Steelers American Football team has been representing her country in the run up to the European Championships.

Lauren Mills represented GB Ladies in their second international match last weekend down in Hatfield, Hertfordshire.

The match against Russia was a qualifying game for the championships to be held in Spain, this summer.

The GB team dominated from the outset and even a break of 20 minutes for a thunderstorm did not put them off their stride, eventually running out winners 54-6.

Lauren plays on the offensive line and was the only member of the Steelers who are based in Tipton to have been selected to represent her country as part of the GB squad.

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Brummies make it two out of two

BIRMINGHAM made it two out of two in the National League with an impressive 51-39 win against Stoke.

It was another incident packed night at Perry Barr, but the Brummies fought hard to ensure they picked up three more league points and send the visitors home empty handed.

Team Manager Graham Drury was thrilled to see his side maintain their unbeaten start to the league campaign.

"It was another fantastic team performance and I think we were good value for our win in the end," said Drury.

"Things were pretty close early on but, as I expected, we were strong in the second half and managed to pull away.

"Adam Ellis was in a class of his own, Zach was absolutely superb, Tom Perry did his captain's role really once again and the other boys chipped in with some important points.

"It was another pleasing night and we'll take that with us to Looker Road on Saturday."

Adam Ellis eased to a 15 point maximum, whilst Zach Wajtknecht (14) and Tom Perry (12+2) bagged double figures at home once again.

Adam Kirby suffered a mixed night but still managed an important 5+1, whilst Alex Wilson managed three points prior to a huge crash in Heat 12.

Harvie Banks endured another tough night but rode well to hold on to his two points.

Birmingham: Adam Ellis 15, Zach Wajtknecht 14, Tom Perry 12+2, Adam Kirby 5+2, Alex Wilson 3, Harvie Banks 2, Sam Chapman R/R.

Stoke: Danny Phillips 9, Jon Armstrong 9, Shaun Tedham 8+3, Lee Payne 6+1, Ryan MacDonald 0.. League Points: Birmingham 3, Stoke 0.

The George fight strong battle to take the match

Warwick and Worcester Premier Division 1
The George 209 West Brom FSC 205

THE George had a great battle in a very entertaining match against West Brom FSC, with the result in doubt until the last bowl of the match.

West Brom got off to a good start and led by 10 shots after the 1st four, Phil Clinton (21-16) and Elliot McGuinness (21-17) winning for The George.

In the middle four The George had two more losers and at one point were 22 shots adrift but wins from Alan Belcher (21-9) and Stewart Meddings (21-14) kept the difference to 10 shots.

The turning point came in the back four when Jamie Dunn put in a captains performance to win 21-4 putting The George in front for the first time.

Two further defeats meant that with the last game on the green The George held a slender two-shot advantage.

With the last game tied at 16-16 Stuart Nash managed to hold his nerve in front of a noisy crowd to record a 21-19 win and see The George home by four shots,

Albion shift focus from Sako to Phillips

Football

ALBION are ready to focus their attentions on QPR winger Matty Phillips after cooling their interest in Bakary Sako because of the Wolves man's wage demands.

The Baggies plan to step up their interest in Phillips over the next few weeks with the club' looking increasingly likely to be relegated from the Premier League.

But Hawthorns officials expect fierce competition for Phillips' signature from a host of top-flight rivals if the 24-year-old is allowed to leave Loftus Road. It's reported Phillips has moved above Sako on the Baggies' summer transfer hit-list after the out-of-contact Wolves man shocked Albion with his wage demands, although they have not ruled out further talks if Sako lowers his sights.

Boss Tony Pulis wants at least one more wide-man in time for next season, having only landed Callum McManaman in January despite enquiring about a host of other widemen – including Phillips.

Several

Nottingham Forest's Michail Antonio was another player who Albion considered in January and might return for in the summer.

Pulis will also look to add several new full-backs, with Swansea left-back Neil Taylor still high on his list.

He wants to add extra firepower in attack and might consider a free-transfer move for West Ham's Carlton Cole, whose proposed move to The Hawthorns on the final day of the January transfer window broke down at the 11th hour.

Meanwhile, Hawthorns sources have played down online reports linking Albion with a summer move for Wolves striker Benik Afobe.

BAGGIES GRAB UNITED SCALP

Man Utd 0 Albion 1

TONY Pulis's Hawthorns reign might just have its launchpad.

For so long since his arrival on New Year's Day, Pulis' relationship with Baggies fans has felt like a marriage of convenience.

But victory on one of world football's grandest stages has finally given head coach and supporters a joyful, shared experience over which they can bond.

They might not have gone from uneasy bedfellows to bosom buddies quite yet.

But a second successive Baggies triumph at Old Trafford is a hell of place to start with building a more genuine love affair. Saturday's win had very little in common with the one in September 2013 – in fact the sense of joy at the final whistle was the only thing that felt the same.

Yet while the win for Steve Clarke's men was more thrilling, more shocking and more glorious, Saturday's success was more important.

Relegation

Because from a position of feeling safe from relegation when they left for Manchester on Friday afternoon, the Baggies arrived at kick-off time on Saturday evening at Old Trafford with an horrendous sequence of results leaving their battle for survival back on. Thanks to brilliant organisation, an iron will and some tremendous performances, Pulis's men pulled off a terrific triumph to move to their unlikely 40-point target with three games still to play.

Boaz Myhill was the hero with a penalty save from Robin van Persie and more fantastic blocks late on.

But the goalkeeper's heroics merely typified the spirit of his team, who clearly revel in games when they have nothing to lose, even if they struggled to live with the pressure of expectation when they were favourites against QPR and Leicester.

There were brave blocks, timely tackles, important headers and backs-to-the-wall brilliance that earned Pulis's men the three points they deserved against a United side who dominated possession but had no answer to the resilience of their visitors.

So while the latest win never touched the swashbuckling, slick heights of that memorable afternoon 19 months ago, it was equally hard-earned and just as merited.

If Myhill set the tone with a series of important interventions, central defenders Gareth McAuley and Jonas Olsson followed his lead with strong, solid displays while, in front of the back four, Claudio Yacob and Darren Fletcher's tireless efforts ensured United's midfielders were never able to turn possession into a decisive weapon.

And Saido Berahino, so often dismissed as a selfish, big-time Charlie, gave the home defenders a tough afternoon with a display of graft and tenacity that underlined his growing footballing maturity. Pulis, too, was one of the stars of the show despite never setting foot on the field.

The Welshman has found it tough to win over Baggies supporters with the ultra-pragmatic approach that has made his side hard to watch.

And on 63 minutes a counter-attack brought Albion the opening and only goal. Darren Fletcher burst through the middle and was body-checked by Paddy McNair, earning the United defender a booking.

And Brunt blasted the free-kick towards goal, with a huge deflection off Olsson's calf taking the ball past a helpless De Gea.

Myhill kept out van Persie's spot-kick.

Albion's Chris Brunt scores the winning goal during the Premier clash at Old Trafford

Villa chew up Toffees with Benteke

Villa 3 Everton 2

CHRISTIAN Benteke's brace inspired Aston Villa to a vital 3-2 victory over lacklustre Everton.

The red-hot striker scored his ninth and 10th goals in eight games to ease Villa to a crucial win and maintain their cushion over the drop zone.

Tom Cleverley added a third just after Romelu Lukaku's penalty gave Everton hope of a comeback.

Phil Jagielka pulled a goal back in injury time but Villa hung on for just their fourth home league win of the season.

The hosts deserved their victory against the poor Toffees, who rarely showed the form which had seen them win five of their last six league games.

Villa are two points above the Premier League bottom three but are now, importantly, above free-falling Newcastle on goal difference in 14th.

Shay Given made his first top-flight start since August 2012 – when he played against Everton – after Brad Guzan was dropped following a shaky performance in the defeat at Manchester City.

Charles N'Zogbia also replaced Carlos Sanchez while Everton brought in Kevin Mirallas and Steven Naismith.

The Toffees were one of the form teams in the Premier League, having beaten Manchester United 3-0 last week, but Villa's start made a mockery of their recent results.

The tenacious hosts looked to cut through Everton early and grabbed a deserved lead after just 10 minutes.

Benteke had threatened already, glancing a header wide, but this time he made it countwhen he powered in from Fabian Delph's wonderful cross.

N'Zogbia tested Tim Howard with a free-kick as Villa chased a second.

FA defends Cup ticketing scheme

THE FA has defended the allocation of FA Cup Final tickets after complaints from Villa and Arsenal fans.

Both clubs will receive 25,000 tickets for the May 30 showpiece at Wembley's 90,000-seater stadium.

The FA stressed it is important to reward members and volunteers of the 'football family,' while stating 25,000 is the maximum number of tickets offered to any club since the first final at the new Wembley in 2007. A further 17,000 tickets are on offer to members of Club Wembley, which is effectively a season ticket for the national stadium.

More than 32,000 Villa fans watched their team beat Liverpool 2-1 in the semi-final at Wembley.

★★★

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